

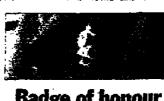


FASHION So simple. so Italian Cerruti is back on all the best

hips, PAGE 14



EAT OUT Restaurants to suit every taste Details and voucher, P46



Badge of honour How uniform helps pupils to walk tall, PI5



Details PAGE 39

Major rebuffs Scott over access to report

By PHILIP WESSTER

JOHN MAJOR sparked fresh protests over the Scott report yesterday by rebuffing a per-sonal appeal from Sir Richard Scott, backed in the Commons by Tony Blair, to allow MPs to

for MPs to see the report an hour before it is published tomorrow at 3.30 pm with a Commons statement by lan Lang. President of the Board

prior sighting for MPs "in the interests of proper parliamen-tary democracy", was echoing a request by Sir Richard Christopher Muttukumaru,

secretary to the inquiry, wroteto Mr Lang on Monday, saying that Sir-Richard hoped everyone with a proper interest in the report would be allowed access to it at the earliest possible moment so public debate could take place on an informed basis. Whether this would be achieved if copies were not made available before Mr Lang's statement was doubtful, he said, and Sir Richard therefore suggested that the report could be laid before Parliament an hour or so earlier.

Mr Blair asked for early publication to give MPs some chance to study it. He said the campaign to discredit Sir Richard prior to publication had been unprecedented.

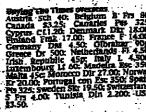
But Mr Major said Mr Blair should know that was not the way governments conducted business. "The arrangements proposed are in line with the usual practice of publishing a report and making it available to honourable Members at the same time. It is precisely so Members have time to absorb and understand the report . . . that we have arranged a debate in Government time ten days after publication."

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said: "How can it be right that ministers have eight days to read this report when civil servants who are criticised may not even get six hours?"

Meanwhile, the Govern-ment defeated by 19 votes a motion in the Lords from Lord Richard, the Labour peers' leader, and Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, the Liberal Democrat leader, for more time to consider the report.

Sue Cameron, page 16

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk





trip to Paris for two, P22

POLITICAL EDITOR see it early.

The Prime Minister infuri-

ated Labour MPs by disclosing that the 1,800-page report into the arms-to-lraq affair had been made available only to those ministers or civil servants who need to see it in order to help prepare the Government's response to questions in this House".

He rejected Mr Blair's call of Trade.

Tensions over the report are rising and the Opposition parties are turning their fire on the Government for what they see as the unfair advantage it has taken in seeing the report eight days before any-

Mr Blair, demanding a

middle-aged, middle-class men to a body that is increasingly left wing and anti-tradition, according to a report published yesterday. The survey of more than 500 members of the General Synod portrays a Church driven by self-doubt and concerned more with the Third World and ecology than traditional areas of Christian morality,

such as adultery. It also suggests a Church out of touch with popular opinion: no bishop admitted to reading a tabloid newspaper or to listening to Radio I, and one said he read no newspa-pers at all. A majority of all three houses of the Synod —

the bishops, clergy and laiety
— depended on Radio 4. The survey, conducted be-fore last year's Synod elections and published to coincide with this week's meeting of the new body at Church House in

THE Church of England has Westminster, says that the moved from being a bastion of Church's parliament is still heavily biased towards particular social backgrounds, but adds: "Some categories conventionally labelled as middle class in contemporary society are conspicuous by their

And while the number of bishops following the traditional route of public school and Oxbridge is still high, it has fallen dramatically since the Second World War. Three bishops - including the Archbishop of Canterbury — left school before they were 16.

> that the Church, once described as the Tory party at prayer, is now comprised mostly of Labour and Liberal Democrat supporters. Fewer than 30 clergy were members of a political party, most of them Labour, and one bishop belonged to the Liberai Democrats. Only a quarter of the bishops or clergy voted Con-

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

servative in 1992, compared with 44 per cent of the laiety. Both politically and spiritually, the laiety - which for the first time had a small majority of women less liberal-minded than either the clergy or the bishops, with a greater proportion of Tory party members and a tougher approach to moral issues. Nearly two-thirds of the laity said the Church failed to give

only a third of the bishops and half the clergy agreed. The bishops put adultery, abortion, euthanasia and Politically, the survey shows homosexuality at the bottom of their list of important issues. Their priorities were Third World problems, unemployment, the environment politics. Two bishops went so far as to say that the

abortion.The clergy also thought the Third World, unemployment and the environment most important, as did the laity, but a higher proportion of the latter group concerned about adultery.

The new faces of the General Synod: Katy Blake, Beatrice Brandon and the Rev Chad Cousmaker were among those attending the meeting at Westminster yesterday

Church of England 'turning

into Lib Dems at prayer'

The survey was conducted among the 547 members of the Synod that served from 1990-95 by Grace Davie, a sociology lecturer at Exeter University, and Christopher Short, a research fellow at Cheltenham adequate answers to moral and social problems, family life and spiritual needs, while and Gloucester Higher Education College. The work was financed by the Synod and its secretary general. Philip Mawer says in the preface that its results "show the General Synod as a body continuing to evolve as the Church of England is self-changing and

the will of Christ in the nation it serves". But traditionalists saw the Church should not speak out report as vindicating their at all on adultery and one said that it should keep quiet on Church was changing. The

seeks the better to undertake

Ven George Austin, the Arch-deacon of York who lost his seat on the Synod last year, said: "I am beyond being depressed about the Church of land. But it is God's church and they will not win. The pendulum will swing back. People are fed-up with the trendiness of the Islington religion set. The equivalent of

the Islington political set has moved into religion. Bishops are increasingly remote from the ordinary people. It is the politically correct chattering classes who dominate, which is why ecological sins are seen as a greater sin than the ones against the family. It is why the leadership the bishops give is so weak. The Synod has become remote from the men in the pews. I am glad that I

am no longer part of it." The former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Coggan dehowever, saying: "It is the task

with both moral issues and the conditions of the Third World. It is a delicate balancing act. I hope this present Synod will conclusions that the Synod have lost its moral direction would be very rash." Lord Williams of Evel, a

of the church to be concerned

member of the House of Lords Ecclesiastical Committee, accepted the broad thrust of the survey. He said: "The church is not giving any clear moral lead because it cannot. It is not structured to do so, and the Continued on page 2, col l

Leading article, page 17

British girl faces death for drug smuggling

BY ANDREW DRUMMOND AND CAROL MIDGLEY

THE daughter of a British businessman is facing a possible death sentence after being arrested yesterday at Bangkok airport and charged with trafficking nearly 9lb of

Lisa Marie Smith, 20, was detained as she was about to board a flight to Japan. According to police she "readily admitted" concealing the opium in her luggage with intent

She told officers from the Narcotics Control Board that her father. Terence, the chief executive of National Mutual Asia in Hong Kong, had given her a six-week holiday in Thailand as a Christmas present but she had run out of

money during her stay. Last night Miss Smith was locked up in a Bangkok police cell with seven others after having photographs and fingerprints taken. Dressed in a blue T-shirt, long blue skirt and training shoes, she peered through the bars of the cell before settling down in a

The penalty for drugs trafficking in Thailand is death. although no Westerner has yet been executed. Thailand resumed executions two weeks

ago after a nine-year break. Miss Smith's mother, Robin, was distraught after learning about the arrest and said her daughter had been "mixed up" recently. At the family home in Old Peak Road, one of the most affluent areas of Hong Kong, she s could she do this? How could she be so stupid? I spoke to her yesterday and she said she was going to India. I begged her to come home."

Miss Smith is said to have claimed that after her cash ran out an Indian man offered her a ticket to Tokyo on Thai airlines, gave her money and handed her the opium. She was to be met at Tokyo's Narita airport and escorted by train to Yokohama.

IRA lorry bombers are on film

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE have captured the Docklands IRA bombers on film from closed circuit tele-

Photographic experts have begun scrutinising film taken last Friday as the terrorists parked the lorry bomb 90 minutes before the explosion at 7.01pm. The frames are understood to show two bombers leaving the lorry.
Scotland Yard is enhancing

the quality, and the pictures will be compared with criminal records and intelligence files. Even if they are not sharp they will provide vital details of clothing, build, height and possible age. The descriptions could jog witnesses' memories.

Three years ago the police were led to Jan Taylor and Pat Hayes, members of an IRA active service unit, within hours of releasing pictures showing them planting a bomb outside Harrods. Both were jailed.

> Peace process, page 2 Simon Jenkins, page 16

It's the day when Snoozypops asks for cuddle custard

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE TIMES relaxes its usually exacting linguistic stan-dards today and, in the belief that true romance is still a small candle in a naughty world, permits Snoozypops to ask Diddly Wumps for snug-gle pie and cuddle custard. It is Valentine's Day again, when we celebrate passion and desire in the name of a celibate martyr bishop beheaded in Rome for his Chris-. tian faith by the Emperor Claudius the Goth around AD

Lovers and would-be lovers have hijacked his saint's day since at least the eighteenth century, probably because it falls close to the pagan fertility festival of Lupercalia, when the ancients danced in celebration of baser desires.

In this leap year, when tradition dictates that the initiative can be taken by the female, most of our 20 columns of heavily coded mating ritual appear to have been originated by the male, although the encryption would at times try the best brains of Bletchley Park. That the Pen-Jenkins, page 16 guin Man loves the Snow, Letters, page 17 Bitch is a fairly clear piece of

sales of BT's Easyreach pager gender orientation, but who wears the trousers between service are said to have been Babynose and Bum, Starling especially brisk in recent and Keefy, Pixie and Elfie, or months, since word spread Honeybun and Merraboots?
The Royal Mail confirms that it was an efficient device for making secret trysting arrangements with an illicit that the leap year tradition is being ignored: it expects to

handle a record 10.3 million Discriminating lovers, how-Valentine cards this year. ever, still prefer The Times. Postal research indicates that and this year appear to be gradually growing out of their itchy-coo nursery language. In half of all men will send a card, but only 40 per cent of women. They, it is suspected, a clear spirit of European may have gone high-tech; federalism, many of this year's messages are in French and as we would expect from such a literate and educated readership - at least one is in Latin.

No foreign-tongued message can be as impenetrable as Fossil's message of love to Wombat: "Can't wait to be dug up and brushed down. Passion and pickaxes." But no truer love is spoken than by the anonymous sender to an equally anonymous recipient: "My love is like your daily Times - long-estab-

Aaaaaah. Oriental lovers, page 11 Valentines, pages 20 & 21 Interface, page 8

lished, honest and true."

Nadir aide's trial opens

Asil Nadir, the fugitive businessman, laundered £400,000 in stolen funds through Swiss bank accounts to pay personal debts, the Central Criminal Court heard. The money was channelled from Polly Peck

Details of the alleged transactions emerged at the open-ing of the trial of Elizabeth Forsyth, former financial adviser to Mr Nadir. She denies two counts of handling £307,000 and £88,050 in stolen funds in October 1989Page 25

Take That to go their own way

The four remaining members of Take That, the most successful British pop group of the Nineties, said in Manchester that their decision to split up was unanimous and amicable. They have sold ten million albums worldwide and had seven British No I singles Pages 5, 15

Out of luck

Sales of National Lottery Instants fell to £19.3 million hast week, their lowest level. They have dropped steadily from a weekly peak of £44.4 million last May...... Page 25 Be mine tonight.



Ditto.



TV & RADIO_______46, 47

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CHESS & BRIDGE.....45

THE PARTY OF THE P

"I hope Scott doesn't

start poking his nose

around here"

SPORT42-46, 48 **MEDIA & MARKETING 23** LAW REPORT22

Take that! Major brushes aside old discords

Tews that the pop group Take That is to split has apparently club to phone Downing Street. They need advice on how to paper over cracks and to reconcile belligerents. If anyone can hold a divided group together, they reason, it

They are wise. The Prime Minister's first instinct in the Take That crisis will be to buy time to postpone the decision until 1997. Then he will promise a White Paper on the issues and hint at a possible referendum, but in ambigu-ous terms. If pressed, he will

set up an inquiry. He will see each member of Take That talk separately to Mark. Jason. Gary and Howard: talks about talks. There may be hints (not from the PM him-

self. of course) about honours. This column reckons Major's chance of success quite highly. Frankly, a man who has succeeded in cobbling together a Government out of some 325 treacherous, vain, greedy, scheming rats. skivers, oddballs, dimwits, deadbeats, wide-boys, fainthearts and raving lunatics — and kept the show on the road for



should have no trouble with four young men who at least seem capable of taking a steady view of their own advantage. Never mind Ireland: if Major can swing this, he'll sweep the country.

Tony Blair was confronted again yesterday with the questions raised by his proposal to give Scotland its own parliament. Bill Walker (C. Tayside North) complained about it to Mr Major. but the

Labour Leader tight-lipped. Earlier (to Opposition embarrassment) the junior health minister John Bowis had responded to a question from Maria Fyfe (Lab. Glasgow Maryhill):

A Scottish parliament, of course, would take responsibility for health north of the border, but Mrs Fyfe could

Health Questions?"

"May I welcome the hon and

Scottish lady to English

continue to speak and vote on the English National Health. Service. The Opposition can find no answer to the dilenma, as there isn't one.

Among new-Labour MPs. the puzzle has become rather like those questions that grown-ups don't ask the vicar because they are so plonkingly basic. It is left to children to enquire: "In Heaven will Mummy be married to Daddy or to my first Daddy who died? Unlike with Mum and Dad, however, it is not open to Mr Blair to reply "Shut up and eat your Frosties, so he just says nothing. But how will he

solve the problem? A Scottish Labour MP suggested yesterday what could well be the Sam Galbraith (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) introduced a Bill for the establishment of national

parks in Scotland. Mr Galbraith is on to a good idea but he is too timid. Why not make the whole of Scotland a national park? The country could be "themed" so. there would even be a place for the Gorbals and other dismal, granite-hewn urban National Park, the region would no longer need MPs

could sit while the others donned kilts and became

As P.G. Wodehouse almost wrote, it is possible to distinguish between a ray of sun-shine and a Scots MP with a grievance. But In a theme park the aggrieved tone and welcomed by tourists as adding to the authenticity of the experience. And the Commons would be rescued from the synchronised gripe they call "Scottish Questions".

Broken hearts, page 5

Windfall of £10bn for cereal farmers

Europe's beef and cereal farmers have been "overcompensated" by taxpayers to a total of EIO billion over the past three years, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday (Michael Hornsby writes).

Douglas Hogg, the Minister of Agriculture, said the European Union should use the opportunity offered by arming's current prosperity to cut subsidies

Sir David Naish, the president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "Mr Hogg has ignored the role played by the depreciation of the pound in British farmers' higher

Women win case

Seventeen women health workers who missed out on a pay rise because they were on maternity leave won their claim of discrimination in the European Court of Justice. The court in Luxembourg ruled that Joan Gillespie and 16 other unnamed women, mostly nurses, clearly qualified for the increase. However, it dismissed their claim that women on maternity leave should receive full pay.

Howe on judges

Lord Howe of Aberavon is expected to warn tonight in BBC Radio 4's Times Past, Times Future of a loss of respect between politicans and judges which is fuelling clashes between them. His concern about the deteriorating relationship between the govern-ment and judges is echoed by Judge Stephen Turnim, who says relations have got worse since Michael Howard became Home Secretary.

'Tag' man back

The criminal who, last year, was the first to be electronically tagged was back in court yesterday to plead guilty to shoplifting at two supermarkets. Clive Barratt. 30. of King's Lynn, Norfolk, was given a year's probation after telling the magistrates at Swaffham that he had committed the offences because he had no money to feed his three lems with benefits payments.

Bypass evictions

DIA SAI

Newbury bypass protesters failed to block moves to evict them from their camps, tunnels and treetop homes. Sir John Wood, sitting as a High Court judge, ruled that the Department of Transport had been lawfully granted possession of land at Snelsmore Common occupied by campaigners. The protesters had admitted that they were trespassers on the 812-mile bypass

EU beef warning

Germany was given a warning that three of its provincial governments were violating European Union law by banning imports of British beef for lear of "mad cow" disease. The European Commission in Brussels gave the German Federal Government one month to offer reasons why it should not be taken to the European Court of Justice, It said the import bans violated

EU free-trade rules.

Agreement close on election plan

Bosnia-style deal could revive Irish peace talks

By NICHOLAS WATT AND PHILIP WEBSTER

BRITAIN and Ireland were edging closer last night to a deal to keep the Northern Ircland peace process on track. The agreement would involve Bosnia-style peace talks to be followed by

As John Major prepared to publish a paper setting out his deas for elections to a 90strong assembly, John Bruton told the Irish Parliament that he was ready to talk about elections provided they led directly to the long-desired goal of all-party negotiations. But he made plain that elec-tions should come after the socalled proximity talks involving all parties, similar to the conference in Dayton. Ohio, that settled the war in

the former Yugoslavia. Mr Bruton also criticised the Prime Minister for the speed with which he introduced his election plan within hours of the publication of the Mitchell report on decommissioning arms last month. However, his measured criti-

David Trimble was joined by a powerful senator yesterday in demanding that President Clinton should cancel the permission granted last March for Sinn Fein to raise funds in the United States, to belp put pressure on the IRA to accept a genuine ceasefire. Mr Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, visit-ing Washington, said Sinn Fein had raised £970,000 in the US. Jesse Helms, Republican chairman of the For-Relations Committee, said fund-raising rights should be revoked if Mr Adams failed to denounce the

the elections plan, when he said he feared it would "pour

latest bombing.

Mr Major, who briefed the Rev Ian Paisley yesterday on his proposals for elections, hopes to publish his plans soon. Early ideas are for the body to be made up of about 90 members from 18 multimember constituencies. They would form three groups who would pursue peace tall from his original reaction to representatives of the British

Prince speaks to bomb victim on hospital visit

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE Prince of Wales spoke to a bomb victim who suffered more than 100 lacerations to her face when he visited the Royal London Hospital yesterday. Barhara Osei, 23, was recovering from eye surgery at Bart's Hospital but requested to return to the Royal London to meet the Prince. She is due to be released shortly. The Prince also met the

emergency teams who coped with 37 injured people - most of them cut by flying glass — when they arrived in the Whitechapel hospital's accident and emergency depart-ment. Tea and cakes with nurses and surgeons followed a visit to the concrete and revisted metal of South Quay. in the shadow of Canary Wharf, where the Prince was shown the extent of the bomb

Flanked by Sir Paul Condon. Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, and Commander John Grieve, head of the Anti-Terrorist Branch, he went to the spot where Inan Bashir, 29, a newsagent, and his friend John Jefferies, 31, died. Afterwards he met emergency service workers at Limehouse police station, where he praised the courage of police

officers injured in the explosion. Among them was PC Roger de Graaf, who first identified the terrorists' lorry as a suspect vehicle.

Sergeant Anthony Gielty, one of the first on the scene. said: "He told us all we had done a marvellous job and thanked us for our efforts. He asked us to pass on regards to PC Paul Whitling, who has damaged ears caused by the

Two bomb victims are still being treated in hospital. Zaoui Berrezag, 55, was woken yesterday for the first time since Friday, but is being kept in intensive care on a ventilator and remains critical. The other, Ms Osei, is waiting to have stitches removed. Almost 60 staff responded to

the emergency call on Friday night, including telephonists, managers as well as surgeons, doctors and nurses. Gerry Green, the hospital's chief executive, said the Prince's visit had boosted morale.

Mr Bashir was buried near his home in Streatham, south London, yesterday after a private family service at the Croydon Mosque.

Photograph, page 24

and Irish Governments, Voting would be by proportional representation.

Mr Bruton, who cut off ministerial contact with Sinn Fein after the Docklands bomb, said his Government's main priority was to find ways of bringing Sinn Fein back into the full political process. But he insisted that this could happen only if the IRA restored its ceasefire.

"No Government can allow murder, or the threat of murder, to set the political agenda," he said. "Our state is founded on democratic principles . . . If we accept violence in one area of life then we are opening the door to the acceptability of violence in other areas of life."

However, despite his con-demnation of the IRA, his mild criticisms of Britain underlined the feeling in the Irish Republic that the ceasefire might have lasted had Britain done more to reward Sinn Fein. These sentiments were spelt out by Bertie Ahern, the former Prime Minister and leader of Fianna Fail. He said that Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretar bore most responsibility for the impasse.

"Can it be that we are actually seeing the re-emergence of the old situation where Irish affairs are treated as nothing more than a pawn in the British political game?" he said. "A plausible case could be made for saying that Sir Patrick's job was to manage the Northern Ireland peace process in a way that ensured the survival of the Tory Government rather than the survival of the peace process itself."

Albert Reynolds, his predecessor as Irish Prime Minister, said yesterday that he believed the IRA would restore its ceasefire if a date was set for all-party talks. Mr Reynolds. whose Government helped to broker the ceasefire in 1994, was speaking after meeting Gerry Adams in Dundalk.

The Sinn Fein president said after the meeting that it would be difficult "to put this back on the rails. But he came close to echoing Mr Reynolds's comments when he added: "Obviously the only way is for real talks and allparty talks. That is one of the reasons why it collapsed. because the British broke the commitment they made to bring that about."

Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, called for process of intensive discussion" to overcome the standoff over elections. He said that "clarifications" provided by Mr Major's statement vesterday would make it easier for the "elective approach" to be

Simon Jenkins, page 16 more that half its capacity.

Letters, page 17 Built in 1968, it has the



Firefighters salute fallen colleague



Fleur Lombard: died when roof collapsed

By Paul WILKINSON

ONE of Britain's worst

schools in terms of truancy

and exam failure has been

By recommending the clo-

sure of Biakelaw comprehen-

sive in the rough West End district of Newcastle upon

Tyne, education officials have

moved in advance of an in-

spection in October by the Office of Education Stan-

dards. Blakelaw is scheduled

to close at the end of summer

The Government's latest

league tables show that last

summer only one in ten pubils

achieved five or more GCSE

passes between grades A and

C. The city's average was

almost three times higher at 28

per cent, still well below the

national average of 43.5 per

cent. One in four of Blakelaw's

Parents have already shown

their attitude. With 563 pupils,

the school is operating at little

pupils skipped classes.

earmarked for closure.

By A STAFF REPORTER

FLEUR Lombard, the first woman firefighter to die on duty in Britain, was remembered vesterday as more than 1,000 uniformed officers from across the country, including her colleagues in Bristol, gathered for a cathedral funeral service.

Her black coffin, draped in a Union flag and bearing her ter's belmet. was carried on a turntable ladder at the head of a cortege that marched through Derby, the city where she was born and where she first worked as a part-time firefighter.

Shoppers stood in silence as officers walked in a guard of honour to the cathedral. behind the fire appliance in

Newcastle officials move

to force closure of school

Newcastle with just 18 shi-

The pupils will be distribut-

ed among other schools in the

area, but the 35 staff have yet

to be told whether they will be

re-employed.

Darren Murphy, Newcastle

education committee's chair-

man, said: "In the end you

have to take the view - is it

better to wait to reverse a

decline, or is it better to take

firm action? Young people

only get one chance at a good

education and it would not be

right to wait for the inevitable

which would be ever-decreas-

ing numbers forcing the school to close anyway."

Terry Cooney, the gover-nors' chairman, said: I don't think there is any real alterna-

tive. I would like to see the

school saved but there isn't a

There was distress yester-

day among staff many of

whom first heard the news on

local radio on their way to

classes. Jeffery Curd. the head-

formula that allows it."

dents and only offers one A

level course.

smallest sixth form in master, called an emergency

which the 21-year-old travelled to her last call-out.

Her parents, Roger and Jane, walked behind the coffin with other relatives. Miss Lombard was killed on Febmary 4 as a roof collapsed. trapping her, as she tackled a blaze at Leo's Co-op store in Staple Hill, Bristol. Before the service, Micaela

Saunders, 22, a colleague from Bristoi, stood to attention at the foot of the medieval tower entrance to the cathedral holding Miss Lombard's silver axe, won after being commended as the best recruit on her training course

two years ago. Six of Miss Lombard's colleagues from Derbyshire and from Bristol carried her coffin through the cathedral. Among them was Sue Os-

assembly. Later he said: "Ev-

eryone at the school is very

shocked and saddened. There

is a strong feeling that many

people do not appreciate what good work is going on inside this school. A lot of very good teachers work here with child-

ren. many of whom have quite

☐ Results survey: Indepen

dent school pupils on assisted

paying classmates in last sum-

mer's GCSE and A level

examinations, according to re-sults published yesterday John O'Leary writes).

the Government's scheme for

low-income families had a

pass rate of 94 per cent for five

higher-grade GCSEs, 3 per

cent better than other indepen-

dent school pupils and almost twice the national average.

More than half taking A levels

achieved A or B grades, com-

pared with 41 per cent for all

independent schools, the Inde-

pendent Schools Information Service said.

Teenagers benefiting from

difficult circumstances."

Avon brigade, who was with Miss Lombard at the fire on the day she died. Alongside stood Rob Seaman, 27, who was standing with Miss Lombard as the roof collapsed on them both. He escaped with minor injuries. Andrew Walters, Chief Fire Officer at Avon, told

borne, 23, her best friend and

one of the seven remaining

lucky. We were the first to interview her. It is true to say that the watch were a little apprehensive. They had nev-er had a female firefighter on the watch.

"They soon discovered their fears to be ill-founded. It was clear that Fleur was there to do the job she loved, not to make a point."

Private cash for

building PIMLICO School, a symbol of the 1960s and comprehensive education, The pioneering project has the blessing of Jack Straw, its chairman of governors and the Shadow Home

Tory-controlled Westminster City Council aims to find £18.5 million from commercial backers to redesign, build and manage the school under the Govcrament's private finance

Potential bidders will be able to recomp their investment by building housing on the site or running a private sports club using the school out of hours. The school's low-rise concrete and glass design won awards when it opened in 1970 but it has quickly fallen into disrepair. Annual up-keep costs £370,000.

yesterday became the first state school to seek private funding for rebuilding. Secretary (David Charter writes).

initiative.

Police race case

A black detective has been awarded an estimated £30,000 over an "unfair" annual appraisal by the Metropolitan Police, which he claimed affected his career and salary. Detective Constable Peter Franklin, based at Epsom. won the sum when the force settled his allegation of racial discrimination and victimisation out of court. He has served 16 years with the Metropolitan Police.

Church now the Lib Dems at prayer

damaging the Church Part of the problem is that the synods. from deanery to General Synod, spend a great deal of time ralking about things which do not necessarily matter. The people who serve on these bodies tend to be people who have time, money and the interest to do so. But they are not necessarily truly representative of the man or

woman in the pew. Lord Runcie the former Archbishop of Canterbury questioned the validity of the report. "I do not recognise some of the findings. The leaders of the Church of England are major players in the current debate about di-

piece of moral legislation. They are doing what they can. But if the Synod members think the answer is to make moral pronouncements then that is within their own power.

Lord Runcie believed that priority should be given to recruitment of young intelligent people to articulate the faith of the church. "It is raising the standard of church life, in the parishes of Eng-

land, which matters most. The closure of residential colleges, for financial reasons, creates a danger of getting clerical training on the cheap. There is no substitute for well trained good quality clergy who are able to articulate the

Peter Bruinvels, a synod member of the e Guildford diocese and a former Tory MP, said of the bishops: "They need some strong leadership themselves. The problem is, they do not want to offend anybody and the result is they offend everybody. I understand it, they just want to be popular and they want to be Mr Bruinvels said that

when he was first elected to the synod in 1985 he was one of four elected Tory MPs, now there is only one --Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr Bruinvels accepted that Conservative influence in the Church was declining, but

Tories on the General Synod". But the Rev Andrew

Burnhaam, vice principal of the Oxford theological college St Stephen's House, said: "I vote Labour because Labour espouses virtues of social democraey and can bring these principles into power. I don't know any Tories in the Church, although I think some might vote Tory secretly. I think there has been a move to the Left since the 1960s." The Rev Eric Shegog said the Cliurch could no longer be seen as the Tory Party at prayer, but said the maye was mainly towards the centre ground.

Leading article, page 17

Three counties defy budget limits and the budgets for them were

COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THREE of the first four English counties to set their budgets agreed yesterday to spend more than the Government

allows over the next year. Oxfordshire and Cambridgeshire want to raise council tax beyond govern-ment limits to pay for the increase. Wiltshire is to dig deep into its reserves to finance its overspend.

The increases are only the beginning of the extra amount residents will have to pay. The final bills will include not only the figure for the county but the additional amounts levied by districts and parishes. All three are hung councils

agreed only because Labour and the Liberal Democrats voted together against Tory councillors who wanted to stay inside the governmentimposed spending limits. Cambridgeshire decided on

a £408 million budget, which is £5.8 million above its cap. If the council can now persuade the Government to approve the budget, residents will face an initial 9 per cent increase in council tax plus inevitable further rises in the amounts yet to be levied by district and parish councils.

Even if it is allowed to raise the extra money the council still plans to close four libraries and cut the other libraries' opening hours. The transport and social services budgets will each be cut by £2 million. Cambridgeshire avoided breaking through its cap last year by drawing £7 million from its reserves, which are now so low that the auditor has advised it would be dangerous to withdraw more. Oxfordshure voted to spend

more than its cap but last night councillors were still arguing about how far to go. The Government has set a limit of £332 million for the county, which claims it needs £344 just to maintain services. Even at the capping level. council tax for the county will have to rise by 6.2 per cent before last Oxfordshire drew money to maintain services.

with the state of the first production of the state of th

£8.6 million from its reserves. which are down to £3 million. Wiltshire, which had a spending cap of £330, decided to draw £5.85 million from its reserves to boost its budget to £336 million. Some savings will be made in administra-

Tise by 1.6 per cent. Breaking through the cap is an expensive gamble. If councils fail to persuade the Government that they are justified, they have to rebill council tax payers at an average cost of £500,000. That so before district and parish pre-risk shows how sincerely they cepts are levied. The year believe they need to raise more

tion costs, but all front-line

services are to be preserved.

Council tax for the county will

A amen niu cae,

Howe on judge

😘 Tan bad

PROPERTY SALES

Desperately seeking synergy

o long then, Videotron. Or rates, the cable industry now has rather, Videotron. The Canamore telephone customers [1,216,375] dian owners of Britain's sixth. than it has television subscribers largest cable television company are (1.159,774): pulling back to Montreal, to concen-trate their money in North America too. The Office of Pair Trading has where they can see some reward.

It is fitting that Kenneth Baker. stake. Videotron Holdings will continue to operate the Videotron cable franchises in London and the South East. It was Mr Baker, as Trade and Industry Secretary, who in 1981 beckoned Britain down the golden road leading to the "wired nation".

have been lured by multi-channel television have chosen, by about four to one, to receive these extra channels from a satellite and a dish on the roof, not from a duct in the ground.

The low popularity of cable in those areas where it has been laid is the main reason for Videotron's withdrawal. Only 20.8 per cent of homes offered the service have taken it. This is less than half the enerration rate achieved in the Lied States — the inspiration for

r Baker's dream. Britain's comparative indifference. however, reflects, perversely, to Mr Baker's credit, for he insisted that the television cable must be buried underground. In America it hangs thickly festooned from telephone poles. Burying cable greatly increases the costs of installing a system and the high cost greatly discouraged British investors.

As a result, years went by before cable was installed on any appreciable scale and the main investors have been giant North American telephone companies. In the meanwhile, satellite television offered by BSkyB (40 per cent owned by News International, the owner of The

Times) got a headstart.
But Vidéotron may be pulling out of Britain at just the wrong time. The old dream of the wired nation was based on technical reality: the same capacious cable that brings in television pictures can also bring in telecommunications — voice tele-phone calls and computer data. And suddenly in Britain, unlike America, cable telephone has taken off. By

decided to investigate the industry's complaints that BSkyB is abusing its MP, remains on the board of the dominance of the pay-TV market. British company, which is seeking. Also, starting this autumn, BT will new investors to buy the Canadian. have to allow cable telephone subscribers number portability": you will be able to switch to cable telephone and take your BT number with you - until now, you had to switch numbers.

Most important is that cable has now reached a critical mass. One-Fifteen years later, however, the quarter of homes now have access to road is murky. British homes which is cable television, a share that will rise

to 40 per cent by the end of the year A national advertising campaign will shortly be launched to boast cable's generic advantages, such as telephony, and its local programmes, such as London's Live TV and

So the dream was not a **BRENDA** pipe-dream. In the long MADDOX run, cable will catch on and make money for its investors. But will the long wait

have been worth it? Obviously Le Groupe Vidéotron, which is not one of the North American giants, has The same question; "Is it worth

it?" hangs over last week's mysterious merger of MAI, the group which controls the ITV companies, Meridien and Anglia, with United News and Media. which publishes the Daily Express. There is no logic to it, just the same hazy faith in synergy - that someday information and entertainment, print and screen will all wash as one big tub of electronic data.
But Lord Hollick, head of MAI.

seems to be convinced that the shortterm gains from cross-promotion of television by newspapers justifies allying his company with the owners of the declining Express. MAI owns a chunk of the new Channel 5. the terrestrial channel which starts

next January.

Just to grow bigger may be sufficient motive in itself. The trick is to do it without getting too big. The Independent Television Commission's limits on audience and advertising share stand in the way of the undercutting British Telecom's instruct to get as big as possible.

Andrew Mitchell on how Coca-Cola is using discovery marketing

Galong to Mayfair's Letting the Structure of this month and, if you're young enough you're young enough to enter, you'll find a different world. The place is draped in black and red; there are cherries secret out everywhere Cherry Productions, which has kindly laid on the evening's entertainment, has also provided hairstylists. of the can make-up artists, Red or Dead fashion clothes, and before andafter photographers for punters who want to leave their old-selves behind If everything goes right for Cherry Productions, once a month 1,000 young souls will



Cherry Coke wants people to "discover" the drink themselves

new type face). But the new cans are being covered with a plastic wrap printed with the old design. Only if you look closely do you notice that you can peel it off. "It's all about discovery," says Medd.

Trendy club nights organised by Cherry Productions and wrap-up gimmicks like this will. Coca-Cola hopes, intrigue its young buyers. And to keep them

team is now searching for any event, stunt, sponsorship or activity that will attract their attention.

Marketers always differentiate their products - trying to get consumers to notice something special about them - but Cherry Coke is "selling differentness itself", he boasts. "We are like teenagers. We are consciously trying to be different for the sake of it. We want to be attributed as

the cause of different things happening. We want to attach ourselves to people who do different things," Medd says. Typical Coca-Cola hype? Of

course. But it also represents a shift. Traditional mass advertising is having to play second fiddle to new communication channels. In the end, there will be TV ads, but only after months of stunts have spread the word among teenagers.

And Coca-Cola is even pre-

pared to alienate some potential consumers. Strong negative reactions by some can help spur greater loyalty among others, and that is much better than mass indifference, suggests George Bradt, Coca-Cola's UK marketing director.

But Cherry Coke represents a bigger difference for the Coca-Cola marketing machine. The main brand is like a supertanker, says Bradt, Even the slightest such to the tiller — a change to the formula, a new advertising campaign, a tweak to the revered packaging and design is a momentous multi-million dollar decision with global ramifications. Coca-Cola marketers are, in effect, slaves to the brand's heritage. In contrast, the whole point about a brand like Cherry Coke is that "it can reinvent itself every year," says Bradt. That makes difference "a fascinating strategy".

ehind that, there is an even bigger shift. Caught napping by the rise of so-called New Age drinks like Snapple, and amid signs that leading-edge American consumers are turning away from oversweet fizzy drinks, Coca-Cola is busy trying to turn itself into a "total beverages" company.

In Japan it is huge in coffee. In America and parts of Europe it is big in orange juice. And having burnt its fingers with the disastrous launch of New Coke a decade ago, the company is now desperately trying to summon up the courage to innovate. We have to accept that some will succeed and some will fail," says Bradt.

One recent failure is OK Soda. A carbonate delivered in grey grunge packaging, it was introduced into the US with street-cred imagery and targeted at teenagers. And they swiftly shunned it. The product has since been withdrawn. There was some terrific learning," says Bradt. Cherry Coke, he adds, will be different.

How to sell 200m extra newspapers Brian MacArthur on

the rapidly-rising Sun

A NEW record sale of 4,670,000 (almost outselling its Sunday stablemate, the News of the World) was achieved by The Sun on the last Saturday in January. Its booming Saturday sales lifted the paper to an average sale last month of 4,128,000, up 22,000 on a year ago, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Since its cover price was slashed to 20p in June 1993, The Sun has increased sales by more than 660,000 - selling an extra 200 million more papers a year — and has doubled its lead over the Daily Mirror to more than 1.5 million a day. The Sun now accounts for almost one in three national daily sales, in spite of recent price rises. At an average of 687,992, up 56,000 on a

year ago. The Times also set a new sales record. Since the cover price was reduced in 1993, sales are up by 333,000 and still increasing, again in spite of recent in-creases in price. Its share of the daily broadsheet market has almost doubled to 25 per cent.
The effect of cutting prices (and subse-

quently increasing them in gentle doses) has boosted sales of tabloids (up 274,000 year-on-year) and broadsheets (54,000).

There is a more dramatic change, however: in three of the past seven months. the daily broadsheets have, for the first time, outsold the heavyweight Sundays. The reason is the success of the dailies bumper Saturday editions, seen increasingly as serious rivals to the Sundays. More papers are now sold on Saturday than any other day of the week.

Meanwhile an urgent priority for Clive Hollick, the Labour life peer who will soon be chief executive of the merged MAI/United Newspapers group which owns Express Newspapers, is to stop declining sales. Three of the five papers with the biggest falls in sales last month were Express titles, with the Sunday Express down year-on-year by 152,000, the Daily Star down by 58,200 and the Daily Express down by 31,200.

WINNERS	SAND LOS	ERS
Title	Average sales (000s)	% change on Jan 95
Daily Mail The Times The Mail on Sunday Financial Times Daily Mirror	2,065 687 2,134 295 2,560	+14,0 +9.0 +6.7 +5.7 +4.0
Sunday Express The Observer Deily Star News of the World Daily Express	1,286 449 688 4,717 1,265	-10.6 -5.0 -7.8 -2.8 -2.4

MEDIA, SALES & MARKETING

PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

leave the club with a new brand

on their lips. And they'll pass the

is that it is a front for the world's

biggest marketing machine — Coca-Cola Biri it has to content itself with tiny, low-profile pro-

motions like this because any-

thing more might frighten away its rarger market.

Since the brand it is pushing - Cherry Coke — was launched

in the UK ten years ago hardly a

penny has been spent on adver-tising it. Yet teenagers are

buying it in ever-greater num-bers (sales have doubled over

the past two years) partly

because, its marketers suspect, they have done nothing to market it. Youngsters have dis-

covered the brand for them-

selves, says Andrew Medd, the

Now that upstart Virgin Cola has introduced curvy new con-

tainers that give a strong and cheeky hint of the famous Coca-

Cola bottle, Cherry Coke mar-

keters hope their club nights

will help solve their dilemma.

They are entering the subterra-nean world of "discovery mar-

keting", where a verbal

recommendation has far more

influence than a TV commer-

cial; where being different really

matters; where the measure of a

brand's "in-ness" is, in part, a

product of its obscurity.

Cherry Coke is now being

relaunched as "different". And it

is a relaunch with a difference,

of course. No fanfares, No glitzy

ad campaigns. Even Cherry's

new packaging is being kept

under wraps. Literally.
Its old bubblegum-pink de-

sign ("It was the prom queen of soft drinks," confesses one of its

marketing team) is being re-placed by black and red street-

cred graffiti-style packaging ffor

which Coca-Cola has invented a

marketing manager.

So, are we quite clear about the kind of sales person we are looking for?

SALES DIRECTOR: "I think there's no doubt the right person for us will be very sharp and switched on. Someone who will fit nicely into our team culture. And won't have an arrogant, aggressive manner."

MARKETING DIRECTOR: "It is no good just looking for a bright sales orientated person. They'll need to understand their strategic role within the overall plan. Someone who's going to understand and push our marketing strategy forward."

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SALES DIRECTOR: "I'm certain we need someone who'd welcome the opportunity of unlimited earnings where the sky's the limit! Someone who's hungry."

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SALES DIRECTOR: "The kind who likes to work hard and play hard! Who really loves to be with people. ??

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NEWS

Church is now Lib Dems at prayer

■ The Church of England has moved from being a bastion of middle-aged, middle-class men to a body that is increasingly left-wing, anti-tradition and strongly influenced by women.

A survey of more than 500 members of the General Synod portrays a Church driven by self-doubt and concerned more with the Third World and ecology than traditional areas of Christian morality, such as adulteryPage 1

Major rebuffs Scott over report access

■ John Major sparked fresh protests over the Scott report by rebuffing a personal appeal from Sir Richard Scott, backed by Tony Blair, to allow MPs to see it early. He said that the 1,800page report into the arms-to-Iraq affair had been made available "only to those ministers or civil servants who need to see it in order to help prepare the reponse"......

Opium arrest

The daughter of a British businessman is facing a possible death sentence after being arrested at Bangkok airport and charged with carrying nearly 9lb Page 1 of opium

Bombers filmed

A closed circuit television camera captured the IRA bombers on film as they parked their lorry bomb in Docklands Pages 1, 2

Firefighter funeral

Firefighter Fleur Lombard was remembered as more than 1,000 uniformed officers from across the country gathered for a cathedral funeral service.........Page 2

Purpie prose

Joan Collins's main ingredients for her book were "money and sex and power and sex and intrigue and sex", her lawyers admitted but they said her prose was "not ...Page 3 uneditable..

Scenic order

The owner of an 18th-century mansion which used as a setting in the forthcoming Emma Thompson film of Sense and Sensibility has been ordered to conduct vital repairs or face losing the Grade I listed propertyPage 3

Taken That

Take That, whose music and carefully choreographed dance routines caused many a teenage heart to throb, are now breaking them by splitting up...... Page 5

Lost cave world

Details of a world cut off in a Romanian cave for more than five million years and containing 3) unknown species were described to scientistsPage 6

Mountain saved

Residents of a tiny rural community in Wales have been awarded El million of lottery money to buy the heather-clad mountain to prevent it being quarried for sandstone Page 7

Rifkind resistance Malcolm Rifkind resisted demands from Tory Euro-sceptics

for the Government's White Paper on the EU to include radical proposals on the single currency and repatriation of powers from Brussels Germans reject army

Many young Germans are rejecting military service - 161,000 registered as conscientious objectors last year - at a time when Germany is trying to project itself as a military force Page 9

Crippled Dole

The first heat in the prolonged race for the White House left Robert Dole all but crippled as he limped away from the Iowa caucuses Page 10

Hutu misery

Zairean troops blockaded the largest Hutu refugee camp in Goma in a campaign to drive inmates back to Rwanda ... Page 11

Snugglebunny loves Doodle, OK

■ Elsewhere in this issue *The Times* relaxes its usual linguistic standards and, in the belief that true romance is still a small candle in a naughty world, permits Snoozypops to ask Diddly Wumps for snuggle pie. For it is St Valentine's Day, when we celebrate a celibate bishop beheaded in Rome for his Christian faith by the Emperor Claudius ..



The Prince of Wales points to his eye as he talks to PC Roger de Graaf who received an eye injury in the Docklands bombing. Pages 1, 2

BUSINESS

Lottery: Sales of Instants scratch cards hit their lowest level last week - £19.3 million against £44.4 million in May... ...Page 25

Fighting talk: British Aerospace and McDonnell Douglas of the United States have unveiled plans for a tail-less aircraft to replace the Harrier jump jet and the FI6 Eagle. the world's most successful postwar strike aircraft...Page 25

Tax battle: Unilever won a £17 million battle with the taxman in the Court of Appeal, during which the Inland Revenue was accused of abusing its powers......Page 26 Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 21.0 to

3747.6. Sterling rose from 83.8 to 84.2 after a rise from \$1.5310 to \$1.5337 and from DM2.2544 to DM2.2663.

A CONTRACT SPORT Cricket: England players have had to adapt to an alien way of life as

they prepared to open the World Cup against New Zealand inPages 45, 48

Tennis: The much-heralded return of Jennifer Capriati, the American player, had to postponed when she was injured in training for the Paris Open championships.... Page 46 Rugby union: Wales kept faith with

their young players and named an unchanged team for the five nations' championship match against Scotland at Cardiff..... Page 48 Skilng: Atle Skaardal, of Norway,

led a Scandinavian domination of the men's super giant slalom at the world championships in Spain. Scandinavians filled five of the first

Thames revival: There is no shortage of ideas for new bridges, embankments and riverboat schemes

to revive London's river. But are they feasible?....Page 39 Ken's lago: "It's always good for an actor to play a villain, especially

somebody who seems devoid of remorse and regret," says Kenneth Branagh, who plays Iago in a film version of Othello Page 40 Corny spin-offs: A National Gal-

lery exhibition celebrates not only Constable's The Cornfield but also plates, tea-trays, clocks, cushions, thimbles and biscuit tins that reproduce the image ...

Miller's Handel: In Blackheath, Jonathan Miller has devised an ingenious semi-staging of Handel's opera Rodelinda...

The second second

IN THE TIMES

Geoff Brown reviews

Jacob and Laurence

Fishburne, and other

new film releases

Derwent May on

Frederick Brown's

biography of Zola

Othello, starring Irène

■ FILMS

BOOKS

Take this: Jane Gordon mourns the

passing of Take That, who played such an important part in her daughter's adolescence..... Page 15 Groomed for improvement How the wearing of school uniform affects exam results, truancy and .Page 15

Italian rules: Iain R. Webb on why the new, pared-down, clean-cut styles of Cerroti are hot fashion .Page 14

Sites for solemnity: Forget the foreign locations, why not tie the knot in places such as Cornish farmhouses and cottages? Page 36

Cherry Coke: Does the secret of the

success lie in teenagers discovering it for themselves?....Page 23

There is absolutely no justification for this terrible violence. It is as cowardly as the Oklahoma City bombing and as deserving of condemnation. If the killers believe that they can intimidate any of the responsible parties to the negotiations or win over public support in England and Ireland, they are fools

as well as terrorists - Washington Post

Preview: Donal McCann pinys struggling businessman who seel a desperate way out: Into the \$"

(BBCI, 9.30pm) Review: Lynr Truss on the travails of Eas Enders' Bianca

SECTION SECTION

More Euromyths

To link the single market wil the single currency in the nanna of Mr Santer is politically unreal, istic, as well as intellectually ... Page dishonest

Seven years on

Iran must declare the fatwa nu and void: nothing less will do. I Mr Rushdie's words, the crisis ha to be brought to "a formal, signe and sealed conclusion"..... Page

Church for the times

Perhaps it is no bad thing to hav Church that has its roots in the pa but today takes its cue from Tr

SALMAN RUSHDIE

Defended with great courage an high principle by booksellers an publishers, and by thousands o individuals and organisations wh joined in a determined denk campaign, The Satanic Verses ha survived, to make the long jours home from the world of scandal t the world of books.....Page I SIMON JENKINS

The IRA has never been what the

Peace Process requires it to be, liberation movement that negot ates settlements and hands over weapons to its enemies. It is as ancestral mafia of tight-knit fam. ilies obsessed with a unite

PETER RIDDELL

At heart Frank Field is still commi ted to a redistributive system. H may engage in friendly debate wit Peter Lilley. But their approache are wholly different Page

Vice-Admiral Sir Stephen Carlif last British Indian Navy con. mander, Neil Franklin, footballes General Adolf Galland, Germa: fighter ace; Alexander Sedgwick American journalist Page 1

Pursuit of peace in Northern Ire. land: data protection and computers; MPs' selection; Hestletine and debts; Scott inquiry...... Page 17

Sunny

Cloudy

Drizzie

Overcast Rain

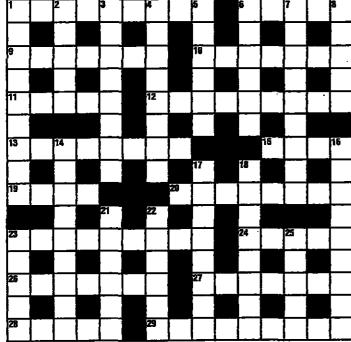
👺 Lightning

Temperatu (Celsius)

Sea conditions

Mind speed

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,090



ACROSS

 Mask doctor got after directions to make incision (9). 6 Spy's intelligence

retreating army (5). 9 Shortage of majorities is worry among Opposition (7). 10 Churchman collecting a pile (7).

11 A number in the pub (5). 12 Some decline a mention in feature

13 Take lead off tiny dog holding allure for many (8).

15 So-called authority following his

writers (4). 19 Money for flat, perhaps (4). 20 Made recompense completely in light of warning (8).

23 Fish that's packaged for collection 24 Clamour from youngster left be-

hind (5). 26 Backfiring explosion traps old

Solution to Puzzle No 20,089 E A X R VER ADIEU E M P ROOTSTOCI E E Y A C

27 Continuous turnover making you very rich (7). 28 Stomached in school, reportedly

29 A gift women tend to recollect (9). DOWN

! One in suit — vest being worn, too

2 Crazy fellow in charge (5). 3 Sanction, for example, in special assembly of allies (8). 4 Bird making home around lake

5 Going astray in search of adven-6 Mount used by artist entering

paintings (6). 7 Term "Exits" peculiarly right for this way-out sort? (9). 8 Card sharp needing no introduc-

tion (5).

14 Dismissed repeatedly, having no qualifications (3.3.3). 16 Vehicular illumination is turned up on transport (9).

17 Certain ingredient put in drink is

deliberate (8). 18 Order blue for wide ornamental 21 Don't fire at tower on top (4.2).

22 Run through musical composition

without rhythm at the outset (6). 23 It is turned upwards in signal dish 25 Not a single woman in British trip

Times Two Crossword, page 48

(5).



n W Scotland Castress Orieny & Stelland N telland Weathercak is charged at 23p per minute rerespirate and 49p per manufe at ablation times

AA ROADWATCH

out testile a

HOURS OF DARKNESS

THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF

Sun sets: 5 :3 pm Stan deses. 7 13 am Moon sets 12.15 pm New Moon February 18 London 5 13 pm to 7 16 am. Bristol 5 22 pm to 7 26 am Edinburgh 5 13 pm to 7 40 am

General: Most of England and Wales will have a dry, bright day with spells of sunshine. It will be quite cold with a slight frost in many western areas and a chilly breeze in eastern counties. East Anglia and southeast

England will be cloudy at times with scattered light wintry showers. Scotland and Northern Ireland will start bright and frostly with a severe frost in parts of Scotland. Cloud and outbreaks of rain, with snow in hilly areas, will spread to northern Scotland. land during the day. Rain or sleet may reach Northern Ireland and southern Scotland in the evening.

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia: rather cloudy, scattered wintry show-ers. Brisk northerly wind easing later Feeling cold. Max 6C (43F) ☐ Central S England, Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake District, iste of Men, Central N England: dry with clear or sunny periods. Wind ficht or moderate northerly. Max 7C (45F). ☐ E England, N E England: mostly dry with bright spells. Wind moderate northerly. Max 5C (41F).

Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Abardeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N ireland: mostly dry and bright by day, patchy sleet or rain later. Wind light north or north-west becoming Ilght north or north-west becoming moderate south-west. Max 6C (43F).

Central Highlanda, Morny Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orthey, Shetland: becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain or sleet, and snow on hills. Wind mainly south-west, moderate increasing fresh or strong. Max 4C (45F).

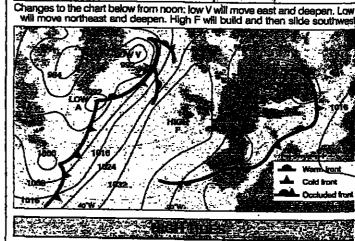
Outhook: dry in the south at first, rain spreading from the north.

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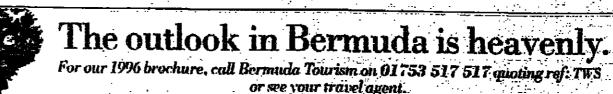
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Yestanday: Highest day tamp: Penzance, Comwall, 100 (50P); lowest day macc Leneick, She 20 (36P); highest rainfall: Aberdaen, 0.28hr, highest sanathine: Penzance, Comwell, 8 Bhr.









EBRUARY 14 19

ARTS 39-41

Kenneth Branagh in a 17th-century sex shocker



HOMES 36

The growth of unusual venues to get married



SPORT 42-48

Simon Barnes steps back in time with Wigan TELEVISION AND RADIO Pages 46,47

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14 1996

National Lottery scratchcards down on their luck



SALES of National Lovery Instants hit their lowest level last week, amid signs of growing hostilities in the crowded UK scretchesid market fastants sales slipped to £19.3 million; crowning seven successive weeks of lackinstre

performance. Sales have been falling steadily from a weekly peak of £44.4 million in May 1995, not long after Instants were launched, Camelor, the National Lottery operator, has introduced several new games in the hope of boosting sales, but without success. It faces additional challenges from rival operators, such as Littlewoods, the pools group, Scratch-n-Win, backed by Lord Mancroft, the antidrugs peer, and Lukey Lotto, which is advertising heavily to try to boost sales.
Interest in the televised National

By Jon Ashworth and Alexandra Fream Aces High. Scratch-n-Win has six on sale. Littlewoods runs several games on behalf of specific charities, and claims sales of \$1.4 million a week.

Lottery draw has boosted on-line ticket sales well above the "usual" spend of about 165 million a week. On-line sales peaked at nearly £128 million in the week of the double roll-over in early January, and were £75.5 million in the week to February 10. Sales of Instants were running at £25 million or more a week until Christmas, but have tailed

off sharply since then.

Camelot always expected Instants' sales to account for 20 to 30 per cent of total sales, and says that the decline mirrors the pattern overseas. How-ever, current levels are at the low end of expectations, and there are signs that the public has become confused by the wide variety of games on offer. Camelot currently has ten games on sale, including Noughts & Crosses and

are currently running at about \$1.3 For every 51 spent on a Camelot scratchcard, 12 per cent goes to the Government, 5 per cent to retailers, 5 per cent to the company and 28 per cent to the five "good causes" that benefit

Scratch-n-Win will not disclose pre-

cise figures, but expects sales to top

£100 million "comfortably" this year, if

UK Charity Lotteries, the name

behind Luke, Lotto, hopes to reap an extra £300,000 a week in sales from its

current advertising blitz. Weekly sales

January is anything to go by.

supposed to put the remaining 50p into the prize pool, but in fact puts 55p into it for every card sold. It is able to do this because it effectively subsidises the scratchcard prizes from the money it

gets from its on-line game. Peter Davis, Director General of the National Lottery, allows this because the overall amount of money that Carnelot puts into the combined pool of its scratchcard and on-line games comes to about 50 per cent.

Charity scratchcard operators have long complained that this is unfair. Unlike Camelot, charity scratchcards are ruled by the Gaming Board, which insists that the charities put only 50p per El scratchcard into the prize pool.

Pennington, page 27

TODAY

BTOCK MARKET BIOICES

3-mith Interbank

STERLING

from lowery funds. The company is Asil Nadir 'laundered £400,000 stolen funds'

ASIL NADIR, the fugitive businessman, laundered E400,000 in stolen funds through Swiss bank accounts in order to pay personal debts, the Central Criminal Court heard yesterday.

The money was channelled from Polly Peck International (PPI), once one of the UK's top performing companies; and used to pay stockbroking fees and other private expenses. Details of the alleged trans-actions emerged at the open-ing of the trial of Elizabeth

The state of the

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Forsyth, former financial adviser to Mr Nadir Mrs Forsyth, 59, of Great Dumnow, Essex, denies two counts of handling £307,000 and £88,050 m stolen funds in October 1989. She was appear-ing at Chichester Rents, the Central Criminal Court annexe on Chancery Lane.

David Calvert-Smith, opening the prosecution for the Serious Fraud Office, told the jury of seven women and five men that Mr Nadir used Mrs Forsyth to disguise the fact that he was using company funds to pay private debts. In October 1989, the court heard, Mr Nadir needed a large sum of money to pay some private debts. He allegedly stole the money from PPI and used Mrs Forsyth to launder the money so that no trace of its origins remained.

Mrs Forsyth's 88-year-old mother, Margaret McAlpine, joined onlookers in the courtroom -Mr Calvert-Smith told the jury that PPI grew rapidly after Mr Nadir became chair-man in 1980. Within seven vears, it had interests in America, the Far East, Turkey and northern Cyprus, and, by 1989, was ranked as one of the UK's top 100 companies. One of the northern Cyprus subsidiaries, Unipac, a maker of cardboard boxes, would feature prominently in the case. By 1990, Mr Nadir's 25 per cent shareholding in PPI was worth about £300 million. For all its size, he retained a high level of personal control, con-

tinging to authorise money transfers on the basis of a single signature, in spite of growing opposition from fel-low directors. Mr Nadic left the UK in May 1993 and, "as far as the Crown is aware". Mrs Forsyth met Mr Nadir in 1985, when she was working for Chibank in Berkeley

Square, central London, close was a manager dealing with high net worth individuals very rich people as Mr Calvert Smith people as Mr Nadir was one of her clients in June 1987, Mrs Forsyth left to become Mr Nadir's personal financial officer,

signing up on a three-year contract worth £45,000 per amount, plus car and expenses. She became chairman of South Audley Management (SAM), formed to oversee the Nadir family's personal busi-ness empire. This included an estate called Baggrave, which Mr Nadir hoped to turn into a model farm, and which was allegedly the recipient of £88,050 in "stolen" funds.

The court heard that the bulk of the stolen funds was allegedly used to pay AJ Bekhor, a stockbroking firm, whose former employee, Jason Davies, worked closely with Mrs Por-syth. In 1989, Mr. Davies moved to France to take charge of a new company, Nadir Investments SA. The court heard that Mr Nadir was trying to



Elizabeth Forsyth, right, with Margaret McAlpine, her 88-year-old mother, yesterday

Reuters hints at cash pile bonus for shareholders

REUTERS, the financial information and electronic trading group, hinted yesterday that it will announce a share buyback or special dividend by next year in an effort to reduce its £850 million mountain of cash.

Peter Job, chief executive, said: "We are actively explor-ing ways of returning surplus cash to shareholders in a manner consistent with the interest

of all shareholders." Market expectations boosted Reuters shares by 31p to 675p, a record high.

A buyback appears the more likely of the options. Reuters, having completed a £350 million buyback in 1993. then equivalent to 4 per cent of the associated tax and legal

problems. The cash pile at Reuters grew by £316 million over the past year as the company recorded strong revenue and profit growth in its global operations. Few acquisitions and slightly lower capital spending added to the cash reserves. The desire to return

value to shareholders suggests that no large acquisition or diversification plan is in the works. Reuters has spent only E200 million on acquisitions in the past five years and said it has no desire to become a conglomerate like Dun & Bradstreet, the financial services and audience ratings group that is now breaking itself up.

Reuters reported a pre-tax profit of £599 million for the year to December 31, up 17 per cent from the £510 million profit in 1994. Earnings per share were 25.8p against 21.7p and the operating margins increased from 19.9 per cent to 20.4 per cent.

Revenues were up 17 per cent to £2.7 billion, partly because of a 31 per cent revenue growth, to £243 million, at Instinct, its automated share dealing system.

Reuters said it was confident it could maintain doubledigit earnings growth this year, but could not be assured of similar revenue growth.

BUSINESS

SSS POLLAR

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr) \$17.10 (\$16.35)

London close \$401.95 (\$403.45)

George uneasy about rate cut

EDDIE GEORGE, Governor of the Bank of England, last night hinted that he had disagreed with the Chancellos over January's quarter-point cut in interest rates but insisted that their differences were narrow and technical (Janet Bush writes). Speaking on the BBC on the eve of today's publication of the Bank's Inflation Report, Mr George said: "To the extent that we took different views, it would have been about a narrow, a very narrow point. The two had agreed on the Tempus, page 28 | commitment to price stability.

BAe joins US consortium | Barings investors to for Harrier replacement

By Ross Tieman and Ian Brodie

McDonnell Douglas of the plans for a tail-less aircraft to replace the Harrier jump jet and the Flo Eagle, the world's most successful post war strike The supersonic jet, steered

by its engine, is one of three vertical take off and landing designs competing for \$10 bil-lion of development funds vader a joint US British programme. British Aerospace, teamed with Northrop Grumman as well as McDonnell, is determined to earn a 10 per cent stake in a programme that could sell 3,000 to 4,000 aircraft worth more than \$80 billion over the next 50 years. Rival designs are being thrawn up by Lockheed Mar-lin, the world's biggest defence contractor, which has bought technology from Yakolev of Rossia, and by Beeing But BAe hopes its experience in developing the Harrier, pro-duced under licence for the US

BRITISH AEROSPACE and as the AVSB, will tip the balance in its favour. Britain's Ministry of Defence has invested \$200 million in the \$2 billion Joint Advanced Strike Technology programme. The aim is to levelop a plane in three ver-

sions. One would have short take-off, vertical landing capability. That would replace the Royal Navy's Sea Harrier fighter bombers and AVSB jump-jets used by the US Marines. A second version

will replace carrier-bourne planes used by the US Navy. The third version, built on the same production line, would operate from conventional runways. Each would embody the latest stealth technology, carrying weapons within the wing and fuselage to minimise radar signature. Rivalry between the con-

tenders is intensifying ahead

of the selection, in October, of two teams to each produce interest payments, and all the costs involved, should be istwo rival prototype aircraft.



Wings and prayers: the BAe consortium's tail-less fighter part of ABN Amro, the Dutch

proceed with writs

By ROBERT MILLER

INVESTORS who lost more than £100 million in the collapse of Barings will today authorise lawyers to issue writs against former senior executives at the bank, and three leading City houses that participated in the bond issue. Jonathan Stone, the lawyer heading the Barings' Bondholders action group, said that writs aimed at recovering the original £100 million as well as a further £9 million in lost

sued shortly. The three former executives of Barings, which crashed almost a year ago with debts of £860 million run up by the dealings of Nick Leeson on the Far East money markets, have been named as Peter Baring. the former chairman, Andrew Tuckey, his deputy, and Peter Norris, chief executive officer

of investment operations. Writs are also to be served on City houses that participated in the January 1994 bond issue, including Houre Govett.

banking group, BZW and Cazenove. Barings plc and Baring Brothers, both of which are in administration, will also be the target of writs issued through Ernst & Young, the administrator. This is a technical move aimed at moving the bondholders up the list of creditors, from near the bottom as subordinated loan-note holders.

The move by the private bondholders has the backing of several powerful institu-tions through the Association of British Insurers, some of whose members - among them Legal & General and Scottish Amicable - also inested in the loan notes.

Mr Stone said that ING, the Dutch banking and insurance combine that bought Barings, might also consider making compensation payments in view of the fact that it made "a serious error of judgment" in paying £90 million in bonuses to bank staff on the back of Leeson's bogus trading.

Pennington, page 27

PHONE US if you need

your HAIR CUT. Your new Aston

Martin Vantage picked up from the factory.

A CUP of COFFEE. (Just the way

you like it.) A game of squash with the

out-going CHAIRMAN. And someone

to CONFIDE IN on a serious

business matter.



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Superscape shares

SHARES in Superscape VR surged 75p to 539p after the virtual reality software company unveiled a potentially lucrative worldwide distribution deal — thought to be worth

more than \$3 million - with IBM, the US computer group. IBM will market and sell Superscape's virtual reality software and related services, such as consultancy and training, throughout Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the

former USSR. Agreements covering the Asia-Pacific and

important North and South American markets are also in the

offing. Superscape's market capitalisation has increased from £38.8 million to £45 million.

ATARI, the US computer and video games company, is to merge with JTS Corp, a privately owned disk-drive manufacturer, as part of a diversification away from entertainment. Atari has had difficulty maintaining its

position in the games industry against Sega and Nintendo, its Japanese rivals. Atari shareholders will own 60 per cent of

the merged company. JTS was formed in 1994 by Jugi Tandon, the company's chairman. He will be chairman of

SHARES in Sun Alliance fell op to 362p yesterday after Chubb

Corp. its US partner, announced it was reducing the amount of

business the two insurers cede to each other. Annually, Sun

Alliance supplies £200 million of business to Chubb and re-ceives £300 million back. Sun Alliance confirmed business was

likely to reduce by a third this year, next year, and a further

third in 1998. A spokesman for the UK insurer said the partnership had been working since 1882. Chubb holds 5 per cent of Sun Alliance, while Sun holds under 3 per cent of Chubb.

Earle leads action group

FRASER EARLE, a former chief executive of Standard Char-

tered's China business, will head an action group of shareholders in two Classic Bloodstock companies, the trou-

bled racing investment group that has raised nearly £5 mil-

tion from 7,000 investors. At an emergency meeting of Classic Bloodstock II last month, it emerged that the company had raised £2.7 million of which £I.4 million was spent on postage and stationery and a further £I million on promotion and marketing. Only £91,170 was spent on purchasing six horses.

BIOTRACE INTERNATIONAL, the biotech diagnostics

company where Brian Levett, chief executive, left abruptly in

November, will today name his successor. Jim Keir, until last

April managing director of Amersham International's

international trading and technologies division, is joining immediately. Biotrace, whose main products detect food contamination and are based on the enzyme that allows fireflies to glow in the dark, floated in November 1993 at a

Biotrace chief named

Atari plans merger

Sun Alliance slips

soar on IBM deal

Unilever wins fight with taxman

BY OUR CITY STAFF

battle with the taxman.

Appeal that the inland Revenue had abused its powers with a company that had a reputation as a "model taxpayer"

corporation tax rebate claims by Unilever to take into account trading losses because the company had not complied with a twoyear time limit.

ed from March 31, 1991, so that claims must be made within two years unless the Revenue allows longer.

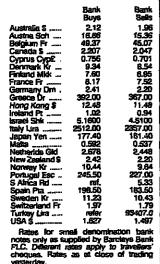
two-year period's expiry.

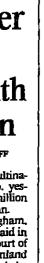
The Revenue challenged tion or objection". Sir Thomas said Unilever and the Revenue had a "consensual procedure" that had

When the Revenue objected to the loss relief and demanded full payment. Unilever applied for judicial review in the High Court where it was ruled that the Revenue could not in fairness, having regard to its past conduct, treat the

Dismissing the Revenue's appeal, Sir Thomas said that to reject Unilever's claims in reliance on the time limit, without clear notice, was so unfair as to amount to an







UNILEVER, the multinational trading group, yes-terday won a £17 million Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, said in a judgment in the Court of

He said it had disallowed

Legislation was amend-

But in an examination of 1,247 Unilever companies for accounting periods since 1969, there were 116 instances of trading losses. Of those, only 40 tax claims

ten of these, but allowed 30 "without comment or quesworked for many years.

claim as time-barred

industry still gave a warning that its workload would continue to decline and job losses escalate during the early part of this year. The Construction Industry Employers Council (CIEC) lambasted the Government for failing to give momentum to the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and so replace cuts in construction capital The Department of the Environment said that the total

IAN LANG. President of the

launched a £35 million four-

year initiative to help UK

businesses to plug into the

opportunities offered by new

information and communica-

The Department of Trade

and Industry (DTI) chose Ca-

nary Wharf, in the London

Docklands, as the venue to

launch its Information Society

tion technologies.

CONSTRUCTION orders

reached their highest level for

two years in December but the

volume of new orders in the fourth quarter was 21 per cent higher than in the third quarter, and 20 per cent higher than in the final three months

that the jump in orders was the result of a small number of large contracts in the private commercial and industrial sectors. It noted that, overall, orders in 1995 were 4 per cent down on the previous year because of sharp drops in both the public and private housing

Martin Laing, chairman of

Hi-tech campaign starts

Initiative (ISI) in spite of last

The ISI, aimed at smaller

and medium-sized companies.

will focus on demonstrating the problem-solving capabili-ties of technology. The DTI plans seminars and road-

shows to encourage use of

electronic networking, video

conferencing and other elec-

tronic services. A recent survey found that 25 per cent of

week's IRA bomb outrage.

Anthony Glossop, left, chief executive of St Modwen Properties, and Stan Clarke, chairman, increased the total dividend 31 per cent to 2.1p a

share after reporting a 6.4 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £10 million for the year to November 30. Net assets rose 8.2 per cent to 53p a share

Construction orders rise but outlook still gloomy

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

the CIEC, acknowledged that yesterday's figures were encouraging and that they could constitute the first genuine sign that construction orders could be on the start of an However, it gave a warning upward path. But he still insisted that there is consider-

able uncertainty.

Mr Laing said that there

were two urgent requirements

that must be met if the continuing decline in the con-

struction industry was to be

reversed: a return to confi-

dence in the housing market

and Government action to

galvanise the Private Finance

firms in America regularly use

e-mail, against just 3 per cent

support centres, providing hands-on experience, building

on the Business Links network.

Mr Lang said: "It is enor-

mously important to increase

Initiative into generating substantial numbers of new projects quickly.

Mr Laing said the Government had repeatedly expressed the wish to set an example as a "best practice client" of the construction industry. However, it had conspicuously failed to do this in three crucial areas — the need for quality instead of the lowest price, the need for single-point responsibility for projects; and the Government's poor track record on

prompt payments.

He added: "We are committed to making a success of the PFI but our commitment is not onen-ended. We cannot continue to tolerate the prohibitively high tendering costs for PFI projects which we are facing at present." Mr Laing also complained

about low investment, including in construction, claiming in this country, and about 40 that to date the share of per cent of companies in the UK have no computers. The ISI will offer 50 local annual output going to this end had dropped by a quarter in the 1990s. However, he was more hopeful on prospects for the housing market, saying that tax cuts taking effect in two months' time would help, as long as interest rates are the competitiveness of British pitched and maintained at the lowest possible level.

Singapore BICC ban contested

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

ACTION by the Singapore authorities to ban a subsidiary of BICC, the cable and construction operation, from new government contracts in the next five years brought a swift appeal from the company, which yesterday announced cablemaking expan sion in Asia-Pacific.

News of the ban, which affects all work with Singa-pore's Public Utilities Board. with whom BICC has worked for more than ten years, cannot derail BICC's plans to build a cablemaking factory

A spokesman for BICC said that allegations of corruption which led to Singapore's ban would be contested. Singapore named five companies in relation to the conviction of a key official at the Public Utilities Board, who was recently jailed for 14 years for corruption and criminal conspiracy. The other companies were Siemens of Germany. Italy's Pirelli and Japan's

Marubeni Corporation

Marubeni Corporation

BICC said that it is pumping \$11 million into a \$45 million cablemaking factory in Indonesia. BICC is also establishing a data cable sys-tems business in the Philippines at a cost of \$10 million.

Tomen Corporation and

Pennington, page 27

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US pay rising slowly

price of 130p. Yesterday the shares closed at 39p.

AMERICAN workers pay and benefits rose by 2.9 per cent last year, the smallest annual increase since the US Government began tracking such changes in 1982. The US Labor Department said that the rise in its Employment Cost Index was held back by the tipiest advance on record in benefits such as health care and holidays. Many analysts had expected an even smaller employee cost increase last year, of about 2.6 per cent. The previous yearly low for the index was 3 per cent in 1994.

Danka raises £128m

DANKA BUSINESS SYSTEMS, the office equipment supplier whose shares are listed in London, has placed 17 million shares, mostly in the form of American Depository Shares (ADS), with institutional investors at \$42 per ADS. equivalent to 683p a share. Each ADS represents four ordinary shares. Proceeds of the placing, estimated at £128.4 million, will be used to reduce borrowings arising from the acquisition of Infotech Europe BV. Existing Danka shares fell 3p to 700p yesterday.

Fisons Scientific ahead

FISONS Scientific Instruments saw a strong turnaround with operating profits of £5.7 million in the 12 months to December 31. The company lost £9.8 million in the previous year and £38 million in 1993. The recovery was attributed to a 10 per cent rise in turnover to £286.3 million and costs cuts. Employees were reduced by 9 per cent to 2,796 by the year end. Fisons Scientific Instruments is now owned by Rhône Poulenc Rorer, which is negotiating its sale to Thermo Instruments Systems of the US for £202 million.

Warning from EMH

SHARES in European Motor Holdings fell 18p to 82p yesterday after the company said that annual profits would fall to about £6.5 million before tax from a reported £7.9 million in the previous 12 months. Richard Palmer, chief executive, said that trading in the motor retail division had fallen significantly below budget in the past two months. This reflected adverse weather conditions and a change in product curcles by auto manufacturers. Depressed retail demand had cycles by auto manufacturers. Depressed retail demand had affected initial contributions from new franchises.

Borrus Gold and Solid Gold accounts and for certain balances on Liquid Gold accounts, from 15th February 1996. All other interest rates on investment accounts remain unchanged. Full details of all other interest rates for Liquid Gold and other Halifax investment accounts are available at

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Compounded among rates (c.A.R.) apply when full interest remains in your account. The merculation taxes of interest are
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So civilised, the French method of receivership

PATRICIA TEHAN AND BEN MACINTYRE

IT IS a very French way to sort out a basket case. Rather than the shattered careers, massive job losses and brunal finality that goes with the Anglo-Saxon system of receivership. the French send in impartial mediators to seek a civilised The mandataires ad hoc

system, introduced in 1954 has been tried many times before but never on a company remotely as large as Eurotunnel, nor on a multi-Lord Wakeham and Robert

Badinter, the two mediators appointed last week, have no fixed term of contract and are not obliged to make a formal report at the end of their deliberations. They can see who they like, meeting when they like and where they like. As Sir

Alastair Morton put it, they

can hold their meetings in a

bar if they want to - the



Wakeham: no fixed term

emphasis is on informality. The best translation of mandataires ad ho' might be a "wise man" or amicus curiae, a friend of the court. Their priority is to find a

solution to an employer's problems that will preserve jobs, not to act as the representative of a baying mob of creditors as under the Anglo-Saxon tradition.

French law emphasises, in order of priority, the continuajobs it provides, the preservation of the shareholders' interests and finally those of creditors. Their eventual recommendations, if any are produced,

are non-binding and can only be implemented with the agreement of the main parties Although few of the many

parties involved in the Eurotunnel crisis objected to the appointments yesterday. there is little optimism that they will find an acceptable compromise solution to a problem that has eluded some of the finest financial brains in Londoh and Paris.

Eurotunnel's banks were last night trying to take a positive view of the development. Although some have expressed concern that Europunnel might use the appointment of mediators as a negotiating tool, bringing the threat of liquidation closer. others said it might actually help to resolve the deadlock in

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Study backs new job count

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government should inmoduce a new survey-based measure of unemployment each month, in addition to the regular count of jobless claimants, according to a new government study.

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) will publish tomorrow a report on jobless figures commissioned by the CSO from David Steel, an Australian statistician. Details were given yesterday to the Com- month. Some ministers are

mons' Employment Select Committee. Dr Steel recommends a

monthly version of the current Labour Force Survey (LFS), an internationally accepted measure of unemployment. Every three mouths it collects labour market data from 60,000 households. To save on costs, Dr Steel proposes collecting the full LFS data from only a third of the sample each

sceptical, but may be swayed by the prospect of more accurate charting.

The cost of a monthly LFS could rise to about £14 million annually from between £5 million and £6 million at

Ministers hope that new claimant count unemployment figures, to be released today, will show a further fall.

Back to work, page 29

Squeeze your loved one, tonight. KINGILSHA



I YOU CAN see them in their down at heel thousands at news-agents in dingy shopping malls or convenience stores on run-

down housing estates: the walk-

ing wounded of the welfare state,

queueing for their instant, il-

Now the signs are that some of

of scraichcards have been sliding

for months and are now well

below £20 million a week and

probably anchored there.
Camelot, the lottery operator,

has overreacted with a rush to

produce a range of products to support flagging card sales. As a result, the public is baffled by all

the new games on offer, and turned off by the decision to limit

some prizes while holding the initial stake money at a pound. There is also the threat of rival

schemes, some of which pay money direct to charities rather

than routing it all through the

cumbersome Lottery mechanism. Scratchcards are like any

new and unexpectedly profitable market, whether in gambling or

4 POUNDUP

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~ £124m

fific ahead

·□ Waning popularity of Instants □ Barings investors take threefold aim □ Desperate paradoxes for the French economy

Scratch fails to relieve the itch

lusory fix of hope.
For the scratchcard punter, the alcoholic lemonade. More opportunists than the trade can sup-port will always be dragged in chances of a big, life transformmg win are only marginally until a process of Darwinian better than of marrying Anthea selection strips out the non-Turner. The odds on a small win are rather better, but only if you define a win, as the National Lottery does, as getting your money back. performers from the survivors.

There is something especially pernicious about Instants permicious about instants scratcheards, though. The product, and its yobbish advertising, is carefully aimed at what are politicly known as the C2s and Ds, that section of society least able to afford gambling and least intellectually capable of appreciating the awful length of the odds against winning. the sheep are no longer willing to be shepherded to market Sales odds against winning.
But it is the form of this

particular fix that is most disturbing. Failure demands another try, and the instant nature of the scratchcard allows one. Millions may lose every week on the on-line lottery, but the delay between placing the bet and learning of the loss limits the amount wagered. Some gamblers may go in too heavily, but for most families it has become a comfortable weekly rinal.

By contrast, most retailers can tell stories of compulsives who spend far more than they can afford on scratchcards, and come

back every week. Carnelot is now considering the results of a pilot scheme running since October that has put the on-line lottery and the cards into a selection of pubs. This misbegotten scheme seems to have attracted little

public criticism, so an extension looks likely. The extraordinary success of the lottery, and the strong performance for on-line sales even on weeks without a rollover, suggest that the fall-off in scratch cards will not harm the forumes of Camelot and its members. But that decline, although it may be too little and too late, is to be

Tied up in legal bonds

O IT IS a mere coincidence that sees two books on Nick Leeson appear just as aggrieved bond-holders in Barings are launching fresh legal action against the bank, but it is an unhappy chincidence all the same.

Revelations like those in The

Times on Monday, that some £80 million or more of the bonuses PENNINGTON



paid to Barings managers and executives were based entirely on non-existent "profits" booked by the energetic if misguided Leeson, can only fan the flames. The re-emergence of the Lesson visage, with or without reversed baseball hat, on the front pages will do little for the bondholders' blood pressure. ING, the Dutch purchasers of

Barings, must have known all along that the numbers those bonuses were based on were phoney, but they presumably felt payment was a necessary part of the total bill for buying the bank. It does not take a financial genius, or even the Bank of England, to realise there was going to be something dubious about Barings' 1994 accounts.

The hondholders have, ostensibly, three sets of targets. They want to sue the three main executives at Barings, the three City institutions who managed the bond issue, and they will also have a go at the two Barings companies now in administration, to lever themselves up the list of priority creditors.

They are looking for £109 million plus costs. In the above order, the three executives do not have £109 million. ABN Amro Hoare Govert, BZW and Cazenove do, but so unexpected and shocking was the collapse of Barings that it hardly seems reasonable to expect them to have foreseen it when putting together the prospectus for the issue in January 1994. They can be expected to put up a strong defence. Barings plc and Baring Brothers are bust, so there is no money there either.

The bondholders' true target is ING. The hope must be that the Dutch, wearying of the endless bickering, will come up with a few million of "nuisance money" to add to the hundreds of millions ING has already spent on Barings. The Dutch might,

and put some money the way of the preference shareholders as well. But their legal obligation to find the cash looks doubtful.

What cost the franc fort?

OUELLE horreur, quelle confusion. Who would be a Frenchman, trying to make sense of his country's economic predicament? Denis Kessler, head of the French equivalent of Principles. our Confederation of British Industry, tied himself in knots yesterday in an attempt at a rational analysis. Constant announcements of

new tax increases destabilise households and companies. Measures to boost economic growth have undermined confidence. He wants state-directed growth financed with debt -- but moans about the budget deficit. Production is stagnating, unemployment is rising, pay is too high, investment is too low. Emerging from this bouilla-

baisse of complaints, however, is one certainty. However dire the economy, the franc must not be

allowed to depreciate. Only a rapid move towards a single currency will provide conditions for lasting growth, he says.

Imagine Britain were still in the exchange-rate mechanism. The recession is deepening, unemployment and repossessions are soaring - and the CBI begs the Chancellor, nay, prays for a thumping great rise in interest rates. Only thus do you have a measure of the strange sickness that seems to have overtaken the

French psyche.

M Kessler's outpourings could not have been in greater contrast to those from across the border. Hans-Olaf Henkel, his German equivalent, said his members would not support a single currency unless it could be proved to promote stability. Perhaps Herr Henkel can offer M Kessler some free counselling.

Tangled cables

BICC is well ahead of the field for this year's Bad Timing award after announcing an £11 million expansion for its Singaporean cables business just as a local subsidiary was being barred from public contracts after brib-ery allegations. A couple of years ago, BICC had the misfortune of becoming tangled up in the scandal over the Pergau dam, in neighbouring Malaysia. As Lady Bracknell might have put it

Apple puts dividend payments on ice

FROM RICHARD THOMSON

APPLE Computer, the world's second largest desktop com-

puter company, has suspended dividend payments because of mounting losses.

The move underlines the depth of the problems besetting Apple, which has suffered a series of big setbacks. over the past few months.

Apple reported a \$69 million loss in its first financial quarter and last week gave a warning that losses in the second quarter would be even bigger as it pays the price of strategic errors that have left it isolated, with a shrinking. market share and a demoral ised workforce.

Gil Amelio, who took over as chairman and chief executive after a boardmom shakeup two weeks ago, is struggling to put together a new strategy to restore public confidence in the company while keeping it independent. The dividend decision was

well received in the stock market. The shares rose 50 cents in early trading to \$28.875. The company said yester-day that profit margins would remain under pressure and be

below the level of previous years because of intense pricing pressures. Apple blamed pressed product life cycles and the need to reduce stocks. Apple has been forced to discount its desktop computers heavily to protect its market share. It has looked

hard for a merger partner, but negotiations with Sun Microsystems were aborted. □ACORN Competer Group. the UK computer technology company that is majority-owned by Italy's Olivetti computer group, and Apple Computer UK are forming a £5 million joint venture com-



BP results set record but pump wars hurt growth

petrol pump is keeping a check on profits growth at warning of a softening in the British Petroleum. Yesterday, chemicals markets. the oil company reported its largest annual profit of £2 billion for 1995, compared with £1.48 billion in 1994, but weak refining margins and price wars at the pump caused a sharp fall in profits from downstream activities.

BP's 36 per cent advance in replacement-cost profit comes before a £709 million charge refining operations. Last autumn BP agreed to sell a refinery in Ohio, and in January the oil company an-

PRICE competition at the US, France and The Netherlands. The company also gave

Sir David Simon, chairman of BP, admitted the trading outlook for refining was grim. with margins at their lowest for 10 years: There is still overcapacity and that is almost certain to affect margins." Sir David said BP intended to remain competitive on petrol prices.

BP is raising the final quarin the fourth quarter for ter dividend by 4 p to 4.25p, a restructuring its worldwide total of 15.25p, up 45 per cent on 1994. Sir David said the profit rise in 1995 was achieved by a combination of self-help and volume innounced the closure or sale of creases, claiming the oil company to develop IT solutions | nounced the closure or sale of creases, claiming the oil confor the UK education market. | another three refineries, in the pany had achieved \$2 billion

ahead of schedule. "I think we are back at the upper end of the oil premier league," he said. The companies that can show productivity gains are the real players."

BP has had discussions with British Gas over take-or-pay contracts but does not expect an early resolution of the problem. The oil company supplies BG with 600 million cubic feet a per day but John Browne, chief executive, said that the average cost of the BP contracts was lop per therm. compared with BG's average cost of some 20p.

Profits from oil exploration and production rose to £579 million in the fourth quarter. from £522 million in the same

period of 1994, thanks to lower exploration write-offs and in spite of a static oil price of \$17 per barrel. BP expects the oil price to remain within a \$16-\$18 range but gave a warning of price volatitity owing to uncertainty in supply/demand balance.

The chemicals division suffered a downturn in the fourth quarter owing to destocking by customers, with profits sliding from £225 million to £127 million. Profits for the year were a record £854 million because of stronger margins and lower costs. In the near term, BP expects softer margins but hopes prices will pick up later in the year.

Profits at **BOC** fuel worries in City

By Alasdair Murray

BOC left the City mildly disappointed yesterday in spite of increased first quarter profits of £101 million. The chemicals company's

share price dropped 18p to 925p with the results regis-tering at the low end of expectations. There was also some concern that a fall in US demand for liquid products in December signalled the start of a downturn in its

vital US markets. But Danny Rosenkranz, chief executive, said: "The improvement was in line with our expectations and shows pretty strong growth across all our main markets, except in healthcare, which we expected to be flattish."

Overall, turnover rose 11 per cent to £968 million. The gas division turnover rose 9 per cent to £681 million, while profits rose to £94 million. BOC said demand had remained strong in the US throughout the quarter, with profitability on an upward trend, although the pace of increase had slowed. Sales and profits increased in Europe, the Pacific and South Africa.

Profits in Ohmeda, the healthcare division, fell by 10 per cent to £13.5 million on reduced turnover of £116 million, as the company continued to be hit by generic competitors to its Forane anaesthetic, although it had preserved its market share at about 50 per cent. Suprane, a new anaesthetic, improved its market share to around one third.

The vacuum products and distribution services business continued its upward trend with turnover up 38 per cent to £171 million and profits up to £18 million. Tempus, page 28

Safeway trading fails to impress

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

CHRISTMAS trading figures from Safeway failed to cheer the market yesterday. Shares in Argyll, the parent company, were marked down, and some brokers trimmed forecasts. in spite of a like-for-like rise in sales of 8.6 per cent in the 17 weeks to the end of last week.

City concern focused on a dip in gross margin. This margin - which is in the mid 20s - slipped by 0.4 percentage points, the group said, as competitive pricing in the sector bit hard.

A Safeway spokesman also said that the current round of traditional new year price discounting was proving sharper than in recent years.

The group also disclosed that sales early last month had slowed. However, it said that sales were currently more pleasing.

Safeway is rolling out a strategy to stem the erosion of its gross margin, which will

brands, a greater emphasis on high-ticket non-food items, such as children's clothes, and a greater contribution from technology. The group is planning more use of selfscanning, now on trial in several stores. It says that scanners that enable customers to add up their own baskets and pass through special checkouts speed shopping. Safeway says that non-food

include promotion of its own

items such as videos and stationery have buoyed the group against fresh food and other perishables, which sell at punishing margins. The chain has also increased sales per square foot by varying its mix. This, it said, had shown room for improvement. The group is still pursuing

its expansion programme and plans to open 17 stores this year and 17 next year.

Tempus, page 28

Improved lending volumes help lift AIB

By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent

land's largest bank, lifted pretax profits by 9 per cent, to lr£373 million, in 1995. Tom Mulcahy, chief executive, said that the increase was achieved in "a highly competitive environment" because of improved lending volumes and

improvement in credit quality. Neil Dean, chief financial officer, said that the bank had had a particularly good year in Northern Ireland, where lending through the branches was 25 per cent up on 1994, and overall lending was 15 per cent higher. Growth had come not so much from the peace dividend" as from benefits of putting AIB technology into TSB branches bought in 1991.

Mr Dean said resurgence in

ALLIED IRISH BANKS, Ire- Northern Ireland's economy predated the peace process. He said it was too soon to predict effects of Friday's bomb, but added: "We were growing a solid business prior to the ceasefire. We are confident that we can continue that in most of our businesses."

AIB Bank, which includes retail and commercial operations in the Irish Republic, Northern Ireland, Great Britain, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, increased profits by 10 per cent, to 1r E203.9 million. US profits were steady at IrE109.6 million, up from IrE)09.5 million.

The year's dividend is 17 per cent up, at 1r12.9p; the final dividend, of 1r7.7p, up 20 per cent, is payable on May 2.

SIEMENS

is a JOURNEY not ^a DESTINATION



financial services group that includes Neilsen.

the ratings agency, as proof that conglomer-

ates get it wrong. D&B is breaking itself up.

longer promising double-digit revenue growth and has been unable to increase product prices significantly in recent years. Reuters also has a habit of hoarding cash; its ESSO milion cash pile is growing by almost £30 milion per transfer.

month. However, the company intends to address the latter criticism and is considering a

share buyback or a special dividend. The

former is more likely, given the precedent of a share buyback in 1993.

is likely to be bigger this time round and

shareholders can rest assured that duliness

could appear virtuous over the coming

highly profitable location

The solution is more cuts in

capacity but as BP has

shown closure costs are high

compared with the marginal

cost of running at a loss and

state-run enterprises are

loath to cut jobs. An outlook

of slimmer margins and a

With so much cash in the bank, the payou

However, Remers is not perfect. It is no

Banking on the bland

ONE of the larger companies in a glamorous sector, Reuters suffers from a dull and worthy

image. Fears that its growth rate is slowing

triggered "sell" recommendations late las

year and since then a flurry of media

megadeals has made the company appear even more staid. Bland does not mean

mediocre, however. The shares have gained about £1 since the autumn and they moved up

smartly yesterday after the release of the year-

Reuters sticks to what it does best.

providing real-time financial information and news, while developing electronic trading

systems such as instinct. It sinks a small

fortune into research and development,

makes very few acquisitions and recoils at

suggestions that it should diversify. In its

defence, it points to Dun & Bradstreet, the

YEARS of research would

probably never yield a clear

answer as to exactly how

much of BP's profits recov-

ery is due to its own efforts

and how much to the chemi-

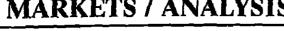
cals cycle. BP enjoyed record

gains last year on the back of

to see the beginnings of a

Even so, BP's renaissance

downturn in September.





MICHAEL CLARK

Wall Street record run gives London another lift

found the prospect of another cut in interest rates and yet another record-breaking run on Wall Street irresistible.

An early mark-up on the back of a 59-point surge in the Dow Jones average overnight enabled the equity market to claw back some of its recent losses. Despite early volatility in New York during resumed trading yesterday, the FT-SE 100 index managed to cling on to most of its gains finishing 21.0 points up at 3.747.6. The total number of shares traded reached 922 million.

Brokers will be anxiously awaiting today's Bank of England inflation report and carnings data for signs of further scope to ease monetary

policy. The City was unimpressed with the latest trading statement from Argyll, the Safeway supermarket chain. despite a 14.1 per cent surge in like-for-like sales. But this failed to mask a further erosion of margins which forced even the company's own broker. Panmure Gordon, to reduce its profit forecast for the current year by £3 million to £400 million. There was also concern expressed about a slow-down in January sales. The shares responded with a fall of 4p to 316p.

Meanwhile, rivals 1. Sainsbury retreated 3p to 382p. and **Tesco** 1½p to 280½p with UBS, the broker, said to have turned bearish of the sector.

Burmah Castrol continues to build on last week's new found support with the shares adding a further 28p to a new high of £10.64. This stretches its lead during the past week to 78p. Last week Merrill Lynch was singing the company's praise claiming that the break-up value of the group could be as much as £20 a share. Yesterday's gains were triggered by figures from Castrol India, the group's third biggest generator of profits, showing a near 30 per cent increase in lubricant volumes,

Traders reported heavy turnover in takeover favourite Trafalgar House, up 2p at 35½p, as a total of 28.6 millions shares changed hands reviving talk again of a break-up bid. Hong Kong Land continues to hold 26 per cent of the shares and has pledged to support the group.

Speculative buying was also good for WH Smith with the



Argyll sales increased but the shares responded with a fall

price adding 7p to 426p on turnover of I.1 million shares. NatWest Securities, the broker, is taking a long-term view of some of the companies in the old drinks sector, now renamed alcoholic beverages. It is impressed with the medium-term attractions of both Guinness, 2½p firmer at 450½p, and Grand Metropolitan 3p better at 448p.

Shares. The placing is expected to raise £128.4 million. Reuters' message to shareholders that it was looking at ways of returning surplus cash to shareholders was good for a jump of 31p to 675p. The group is currently sitting on E800 million of surplus cash and speculation has been mounting in recent weeks that it has been contemplating a

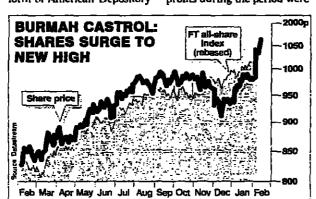
Rexam, the struggling papermaker that used to trade as Bowater, climbed 14p to 374p, Mercury Asset Management has picked up six million shares this week, stretching its holding to 30 million, or almost 6 per cent. Last year the price traded up to 500p on talk of a bid from Alusuisse, the Swiss group.

NatWest also rates Allied Domecq. lp harder at 523p, where it is looking for the 'eventual realisation of value" following recent speculation about a break-up bid.

Danka Business Systems finished 8p lower at 695p as the group placed a total of 17 million shares at 6830. They were placed with US and European investors in the form of American Depository share buy-back operation. It emerged as the international news agency and financial information group unveiled a leap of £39 million in pre-tax profits to £599 million. The main thrust to profits came from Instinct, its computer-

ised share dealing system.

A profits setback in the fourth quarter left BP nursing a fall of 82p to 5362p. Net profits during the period were



up from £427 million to £501 million, but down on the £532 million achieved in the third quarter. For the year as a whole profits grew from £1.48 billion to £2 billion helped by a firmer oil price.

ABN Artiro Hoare Govett, the broker, has switched its recommendation to clients from a "buy" to a "hold" with switching out of the shares benefiting rival Shell, 14p better at 881p, ahead of full

year figures tomorrow. First-quarter figures from BOC Group failed to live up to expectations and the shares slipped 14p to 929p. Industrial gases made all the running while the healthcare side saw profits fall 10 per cent after one-off charges.

A profits warning sent shares of European Motor Holdings, the motor distributor, tumbling 18p to a low of 82p. The group says profits for the year to March, 1996, will fall short of City expectations. The news was followed by a

spate of downgradings.
The news from European also sent the shares of other motor distributors into reverse. Evans Halshaw dropped 10p to 313p, Lex Service op to 321p, Sanderson Brammali 4p to 223p, Cowie Group 5p to 305p, and Euro-

dollar 3p to 94p.
Superscape VR, the virtual reality software group, leapt 75p to 539p on the back of its worldwide distribution deal with IBM. No details of the one-year rolling contract were issued but brokers are confident it will provide a major boost to profits.

Windsor, the insurance broker, slipped 1p to 20p after some cautious comments to shareholders at the annual

GILT-EDGED: In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt touched £1091532 before finishing E's better at £109716 as a total of 64,000 contracts were completed Among conventional issues, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 rose £316 to 10034. while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was three ticks firmer at £1042. □ NEW YORK: Shares on

Wall Street shrugged off an early weakness to resume their upward march. Technology stocks were weak but were pulled off their lowest levels as investors sought the safety of blue chip issues. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average up 9.39 points at 5,509.54.

5609.54 (+9.39) . 662.35 (+0.90) Tokyo: Nikkel Average ... 20784.23 (-150.59) Hong Kong Amsterdam: Sydney: Frankfurt Singapore: 9907.88 (-12.74) 1983.33 (+15.66) Zurich: 731.90 (+0.30) London: 2748.7 (+12.4) FT-SE-A 390FT-SE Eurotrack 100

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

1557.59 (+6.72 FT & Alf-Share .. 113.05 (+0.25 ... 94.66 (+0.07) Bargeins SEAQ Volume . 201.60 (-0.10) 1.5337 (+0.0027) 2.2663 (+0.0119) - 842 (+0.4) RPI 150.7 Dec (3.2%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX 149.6 Dec (3.0%) Jan 1987=100

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Acom Comp 218p (+13p)
Forward Group 720p (+40p)
Reuters 675p (+31p)
REXAM 374p (+14p)
Daigety 441p (+13p)
Boosey Hawkes 613p (+18p)
Granada
Greens King 633p (+11p)
Shelt 881p (+131sp)
Nat West 662p (+10p)
Amersham 862p (+12p)
Wolseley
Low & Bonar 518p (+12p)
Bodycote 438p (+10p)
Biocomps Int 532p (+12p)
FALLS:
European Motor 82p (-18p)
MAID 174p (-13p)
Evans Heishaw
CASI 19 LISSUIGM 212h (-10h)

Closing Prices Page 30

Yorklyde

Fittronic Com 410p (-13p) Border TV 303p (-9p) FS Cons 672'sp (-17p quartet of supermarkets and BP 536'ap (-8'ap)

capacity in Europe is being higher chemicals prices, only exacerbated by new refiner-

the same time, it hopes to

make cost-savings with the development of self-scanning

Saleway's plans for more

diversification into high-ticket items such as children's

clothes will bring the food

retailer up against other ag-

gressive discounters such as

Kingfisher and Storehouse.

Oil companies are already

retaliating against the incur-

sion of grocers on their patch

and Argyll'should not expect

to make easy inroads into

new markets.

BOC

devices at the check-out.

months.

has been downstream and

BP has gone further than

most companies to address

its loss-making refining op-erations spending \$1 billion

on capacity reductions. But even such drastic action will

not turn refining into a

major money-spinner. Over-

over three years of volatile oil prices has been staggering. The net result before exceptional items has grown from £536 million to over £2 billion and last year's record chemicals operating profit of £854 million is not enough to account for the increase. Cost-cutting, particularly in the upstream business, has been a contributor, adding a dollar to BP's net margin per barrei from E&P since 1992.

More recently the focus

weak oil price suggest the next three years will be a greater test for BP. ies in the Far East, once a MORE REFINED PRICES

540 500 480 470 Aug

Argyll

BP

AFTER seasonal excess, thoughts turn to dieting in the new year. In the case of Safeway, which is presently churning out seasonal discounts on its food lines, the slimming experience has been less welcome because it comes in the form of a cut in gross margin. Less desirable than pounds

off the waistline and unattractive for any business. Argyll's margin squeeze in the competitive food retailing sector adds a sobering note to the Christmas trading fig-

ground in the battle for market share, Argyll has paid a price for increased sales. Gross margins, said to be in the mid-20s, have fallen by half a percentage point. It is a hard battle for the smaller of this quarrelsome

shake off its dull reputation. proving that industrial gases can be a rewarding investa third as the company chalked up double digit prof-

Yesterday's slip in the shares was more of a short-not cheap, but there is still one which it will wage with a term correction than a down-room to grow. non-food armoury while ward turn. The quarterly pushing its own brands. At figures were at the low end of EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

expectations but there are few causes for serious concern. The December slowdown in growth in US liquid chemical sales may be the first indication of a general downturn but BOC's take-orpay chemicals contracts offer good protection against a collapse in the market. Generic competition in the anaesthetics markets means that margins for BOC's

Forane will continue to be

squeezed, but the impact is already in the share price. Many of the US gas contracts will not contribute to profits before 1997. With the high level of transparency Determined to make up the THIS year. BOC managed to that these long-term deals allow, analysts are predicting profits of around £535 million in 1998, up a third on last ment. The share price rose by year, with plenty of room to raise the dividend yield from its current level of 3.3 per

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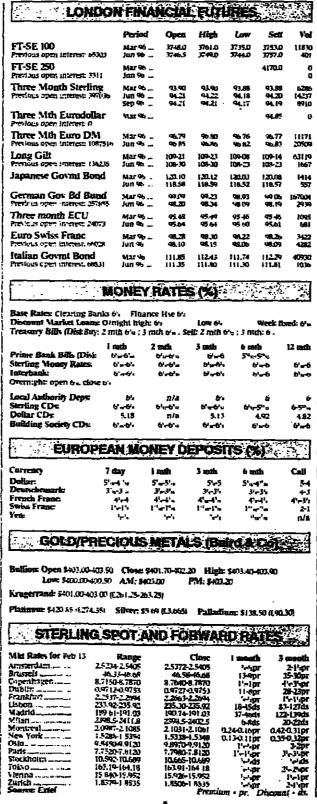
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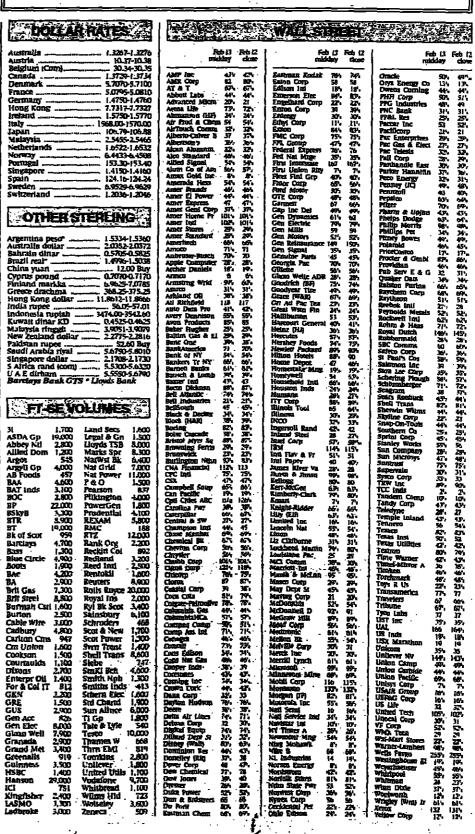
Pro Table

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Tales of a Vienna youth

DADDY, what did you do

on your way to the top? Tim Melville-Ross charmed guests with tales of his misspent youth at yesterday's launch of Fulcrum, a new overseas work experience pro-gramme for A-level stu-dents, sponsored by the Institute of Directors and British Airways. On his way to becoming Director-General of the IoD. Uppingham-educated Melville-Ross worked in a Viennese chocolate factory. "I led a double life, and was completely schiz-ophrenic. I'd rush out at the end of the day smelling of chocolate to meet my rather smart girl friend at

the opera," he boasted. Sir Colin Marshall's childhood memories were rather less exciting. "There was nothing like shadowmg people for experience in my day because, of course, I grew up during the war," explained BA's

But can anybody beat the work experience of China's Foreign Trade Minister, Wu Yi, now visiting Britain? She did extended stints as a bulldozer driver, tried her hand as an explosives operative, and was an oil rigger before becoming Peking's deputy mayor in

Down — then out IT IS a sad day for those used to dashing into Debenhams in Oxford Street, skipping down the escalator, and arriving breathless in Midland Bank's Share shop The bank, which opened its first Share Shop in Birmingham in 1989 and two years later bought its shop network to 70- is closing the Oxford Street outlet in May. It started life at Debenhams on the third floor. However, in. recent years the Share Shop has been moved down to the basement.

Midland says the decision is no reflection on Debenhams, it is just that business has dwindled. Would-be customers will be asked to dash across the road to 431 Oxford Street, or trip along to Baker Street, or indeed to any of Midland's other 200 share



"Now that's what I call a Valentine"

All heart

MEANWHILE, Midland Bank is giving a Valentime's Day gift to the villagers of Bruton, Somerset (population 3,500). After a hard-fought campaign to get a banking facility in Bruton after the closure of NatWest's branch last year, Midland has agreed to take over the NatWest premises and opens a branch there today.

Mouths of babes

IF YOU have ever been flummoxed by an idiots guide to a new personal computer, there is a solution. At yesterday's launch of the Department of Trade and Industry's Information Society Initiative, lan Taylor, Minister for Science and Technology, recalled being told in a light hearted vein that instead of PC companies offering a manual with their new product they should send a five year-

Shephard bangs the drum overseas for jobs in UK

Philip Bassett on a government drive to highlight

Britain's labour market performance

illian Shephard, the Educatiman snephard, the letteration and Employment Section and Employment Sections, files to Paris tomorrow, armed with today's latest unemployment figures, which ministers hope will show a further fall, to sell what she regards as the success story of the UK labour market—one vital to Britain's overall economic competitioeness. economic competitiveness.

She will be putting to the Prench equivalent of the CBI details of the UK's labour market performance, which she published this week. She will also be sending them to Padraig Flynn, the EU's Social Affairs Commissioner, and a range of countries considering making new inward investments in Britain.

To all of them, her message will be the same. "Britain — all of Britain — is getting back to work. We have growing mimbers of successful companies, and rising numbers of people in work.

However, she accepts too that at 2.24 million—officials think that it could fall today by 10,000-15,000 below that - unemployment remains "too high".
Her move comes as Brussels is making

it clear that it will seek from the UK the abandonment of its operant from the Maastricht treaty's social chapter during the process of the intergovernmental conferences that start this summer. But the Government is determined not to let the opt-out go, and the new campaign on Britain's comparative jobs performance is part of its case for retaining it—a case likely to be rehearsed at the EU's first social policy forum in Brussels next month and at the fatherming G7 jobs conference in London.
Labour is scatting about the Gov-

ernment's claims, the key elements of which are laid out in the accompanying table: Using OECD figures, Michael Meacher, Labour's employment spokesman, says that far from Britain outperforming its principal competitor countries on jobs, looking at the period from 1979 when the Conservatives came to power, the UK heads the relatively small list of wealthy countries where jobs have fallen, with the 0.1 per cent decline in civilian employ-ment contrasting sharply with the 36 per cent rise in jobs in The Neiherlands or the 33 per cent

increase in Germany. Mrs Shephard may soon have even more figures to add to those released this week on jobs. Tomorrow, the start consulting on a proposal to add a monthly survey-based measure of unemployment to the regular count of the number of people out of work and claiming benefit. Details of its report were given yesterday to the all-party Commons Employment Select Committee with the clear recommendation for a new unemployment count. The Government's claims on the UK's jobs performance are supported by a study on jobs across Europe from the Institute of Directors. The IoD suggests that in the 20 years to 1994, no net



Gillian Shephard's message is that Britain is getting back to work

private-sector jobs were created in Europe — while the deregulated US saw a growth of as many as 30 million such jobs over the same period.

Others are less fully persuaded. In a new report on employment across Europe, Income Data Services says that while the jobless rate in Britain has declined. "UK performance on employment creation is less convincing", with the creation of low-paid,

with increased job security, depressing consumer demand and leading to lower economic performance.

Mrs Shephard sees her department's move both as being couched in the framework of competitiveness promoted by Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and as an important step in the re-engineering of government being en-acted by merging the employment and education departments. Formally, the new department's business style mission state-

	nangarana Managaran			7.5	
Unemployment Employment	UK 8.6 68	Germany 8.6 85	France 11.6 59	Italy 12.6 51	Spain 22.2 45
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ment is within that framework; its pri-mary aim is to "support economic growth and improve the nation's competitiveness and quality of life by raising standards of educational achievement and skill and by promoting an efficient and flexible labour market".

Officially, the line from the Department for Education and Employment (DFEE) is that both "E"s have equal weight. But with unemployment still falling and education a vital issue, the political advantage to be gained from a concentration on educational issues is clear. "Clearly, in terms of day-to-day detail, it may have this emphasis," Mrs Sheohard told The Times when questioned about the apparent stress on any way from my contention that education and training and higher education are important because of their contribution to the improved competitiveness of the economy. I am absolutely convinced of that."

Officials from Mr Heseltine's competitiveness unit are treading carefully in the dangerous waters of international educational comparisons, in line with Mrs Shephard's job comparisons. Such boldness in politically sensitive areas has proved the undoing of some of her predecessors at both Education and Employment. But Mrs Shephard is highly thought of by Downing Street, and is seen by some as a potential successor if necessary to John Major.

She acknowledges now that the scrapping of the Employment Department last year and its merger with Education were badly handled. What had been a long-cherished aim of some reformers thisfired on the day when email went astray, and staff first heard of the change on the lunchtime news.

rs Shephard rapidly set about reforming the structures of the departments, adopting a business-style organisation that has seen the creation of eight directorates, each led by a directorgeneral, the departure of one of the two "joint" permanent secretaries, and the emergence of Michael Bichard as the sole permanent secretary. He says that there were two distinct cultures, two sets of aims, no structure and unnerved employees. But he charts the structural reform, the competition between officials for jobs, the sharing of values, and the delayering of senior staff, with numbers down from 145 to 95, as clear evidence of progress. He says: "Despite some scepticism, the response has been more positive than I expected."

Mrs Shephard agrees, even though she occasionally talks of the "two sides" of the department. She is convinced. too, that the merger will be permanent. whatever the outcome of the next election. She is critical of what she calls the "inward-looking" nature of some of don't see themselves as part of the country's economic effort" — and believes the re-engineering of the departments will reinforce to them too the competitive importance of both education and employment.

She fervently believes in the idea of the merger, that it is working, and that it is vital for Britain's economy. "It has just transformed everything," she says. And her trip to Paris to bang the drum for jobs in Britain shows how far the idea of competitiveness is now running in areas previously denied to it.



HARRIS

Dr Doom offers an optimistic storm warning

re British fund man-A agers, who have sold out of the Wall Spreet bull market, suffering from collective panic? Yes, said Anatole Kaletsky on February 13. This is a rerating, not a financial bubble, and the buil run will continue. His case was based on the economic fundamentals, and might have looked stronger if he had cited the following authoritative assessment of the US outlook in 1966.

The near-term prospects still support the pleasant side of volatility. Corporate restructuring and downsizing remain in force, constraining the rate of inflation ... The pronounced winnowing down of defence expenditures will continue to be a dampening force. Financial rehabilitation has been largely accomplished in the US and most of Europe: most banks are healthy and capable of energetically seeking new opportunities ... In comparison with other major industrial countries, the US has better prospects. Unemployment is down, job creation is still positive ... and the Federal Reserve will probably provide additional monetary accommodation. These con-

ditions will support con-

sumption while US business

is highly competitive, and can hold on to market share.

In this context, financial

markets will continue to do

reasonably well." The source of this cheery view? Dr Henry Kaufman, speaking in Milan a couple of weeks back. Dr K. was for many years known on Wall Street as Dr Doom. Has he suddenly turned soft, then? Not if you read the small print. The words above are the short-term prelude to a characteristic Kaufman warning: what goes up will in due course come down. Possibly as soon as 1997.

not on economic but on financial fundamentals: the argument that modern market developments have made prices more volatile. Derivatives and securitisation create the illuson of endless liquidity, and encourage risk-taking, though exit can be impossible in a panic. Meanwhile, the explosion in US mutual funds and the spread of global trading

bigger and less stable. For the moment all these factors are conspiring to drive the bull market; but when they turn ... "The unpleasant side of volatility could prove one of the great historic understatements.

A Tokyo-style boom and crash, then? Here I will stick out a mile or so of neck, and disagree with Dr K. What his warning overlooks is that increased short-term volatility can in the longer run make markets more, not less stable. Technophobía dates back at least to the Brady Report on the 1987 market crash - caused, it said, by program trading. But with hindsight we can see that the programs were right: they triggered a manageable correction, which laid the base for the great buil run. The 1994 bond crash, which started in the securitised mortgage market, is the same story of early correction. Small earth-quake few burt. And Tokyo gives the negative proof: no modern gadgets to check a runaway buil, three-figure p/e ratios, and then a 1929-

il dear on Wall Street, then? Not in The long run. First, history is against sleeping bulls: huge price increases always do lead to a correction. Secondly, the part of the Kaufman warning which will probably be over iooked: the mutual fund tide. Wall Street has been watching for a sell-off for so long that it has got bored; but there are other dangers.

The more immediate is that paper wealth will again blind US consumers to the risks of excessive borrowing, until the Fed is forced to start tightening. That would lead to a replay of 1994, but probably louder. It could happen in 1997. Further out lurks demography: as today's savers become tomorrow's retired, the flow which has pumped \$1,000 billion into Wall Street since 1987 will slow to a trickle. The British house market shows the power of such reversals; but not for 20 years or so.

So are British managers craven fools? That depends on what have they bought

ICA's next move should be to elect its presidents

From Mr Jeff Wooller Sir, It is wonderful news that

the proposed merger between the English ICA and CIMA has been shelved. However, we are concerned

13) states that "If the English ICA is to grow, it should do so by competing openly with its

We are not concerned with growth for the sake of growth. we wanted that we would not have opposed the merger. What we wish to protect is the quality of our qualification, which we felt was being diluted by the proposed merg-

have got it badly wrong

apropos their attempts to

reverse the decline in the

I refer particularly to re-

cent adjustments to the base

If it is to be understood

that, because of uncertainty,

people are saving rather

than spending, then, by low-

ering the base rate and

giving financial institutions the incentive to reduce sav

ings rates by even greater

percentages to returns below

the rate of inflation, it is

definition have funds, may-

be induced to relax a little.

while that hitherto favoured

species of borrowers, again

change their habits.

economy?

Promote saving through realistic rates

er. The English ICA is still the system has failed and we must

first choice for the highest quality entrant. Thousands of hopefuls are cast away each year by the highly selective practices of the major accounting firms. The standard of entry goes up each year. We wish to maintain the quality of

We have won a major battle, but the war gods on. We are proposing at the next annual general meeting in June that future presidents are elected by the members. This would replace the

present sycophantic system whereby presidents are chosen by the Council This look for change. Our proposal may not be the best alternative, but at least it is better than the present system and at

In American style elections: potential candidates for president will have to submit a manifesto to all members. Those proposing mergers are likely to get short shrift. Yours faithfully,

least it is more democratic.

JEFF WOOLLER. English ICA anti-merger ginger group, Capital Barter Corporation, 47-48 Berners Street,

Risk and reward

promotion of savings through realistic rates, which is a sound basis, and not through From Mr N. D Anderson Sir. Sir. Dare I suggest that sound basis, and not through Messrs Clarke and George the fear of losing one's job. which is not incorporated, I assume the accounts in 1997 will show a

The distortion of the money-lending market at the expense of savers is clearly not working and. furthermore, are we certain that, in general, cheap loans to industry are going where they are really needed? Yours faithfully.

6 Normanion Street, Brighton.

Mr James Parker seems to consider the high salaries of the senior partners of KPMG justified as a reward for risks taken (Letter, February 9). As the audit function of KPMG is

marked reduction in the salaries to reflect absence of risk. On the day that murses are awarded 2 per cent. Mr Parker's letter seems ill-considered and ill-timed. Yours faithfully, NORMAN D. ANDERSON, 19 Gatterstone Drive,

hardly surprising that, with British Gas's suppliers can win both ways actual losses on their capital. savers are not in the mood to From Mr Ray Albinson

seem singularly well placed ('Customers flock to switch gas supplies February 10). Presumably they can be Courtlands, by definition, are unlikely to paid twice for the same gas -

first for what they have not

ing undersold BG, they have destroyed its market, and then Conversely, by increasing Sir. Suppliers with take-or- again for the same gas suprates, these people, who by pay contracts with British Gas plied directly to the customer. Poor old Sid. Yours faithfully ROY ALBINSON, Mayfield Lane, Wadhurst, What is needed is the supplied to BG because hav East Sussex.

When faith is not enough From M. J. Stanley

Sir, If "patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel", it seems caveat emptor is often the last refuge of the insurance

industry.

All who purchased a pension scheme (The responsibility for mis-selling and compensation, Business Let-ters, K. D. Boyd, February 7) thought they were protecting their future, not gambling their savings. In which case uberrimae fidei (utmost faith) seems more appropriate than caveat emptor.

Traditionally, the insurance industry has built its business on good faith, hence most general insurance is covered by uberrimae fidei contracts. It is high time that the legal position of welfare insurance is clarified if it is to become the sucessor to the Welfare State. Yours faithfully, M J STANLEY, 4 The Haven, Locks Heath.

A case misdirected along Latin lines

Southampton.

From Mr Raiph Instone Sir. In arguing that losses on mis-sold policies should be borne by the consumer, Mr K D Boyd (The responsibility for mis-selling and compensation. Business Letters, February 7) reaches the wrong conclusion by a misuse of Latin. The doctrine caveat emptor does not apply to contracts of insurance: uberrima fides (utmost good faith) does. Caveat scriptor. Yours faithfully RALPH INSTONE

18 Fairacres Rochampton Lane

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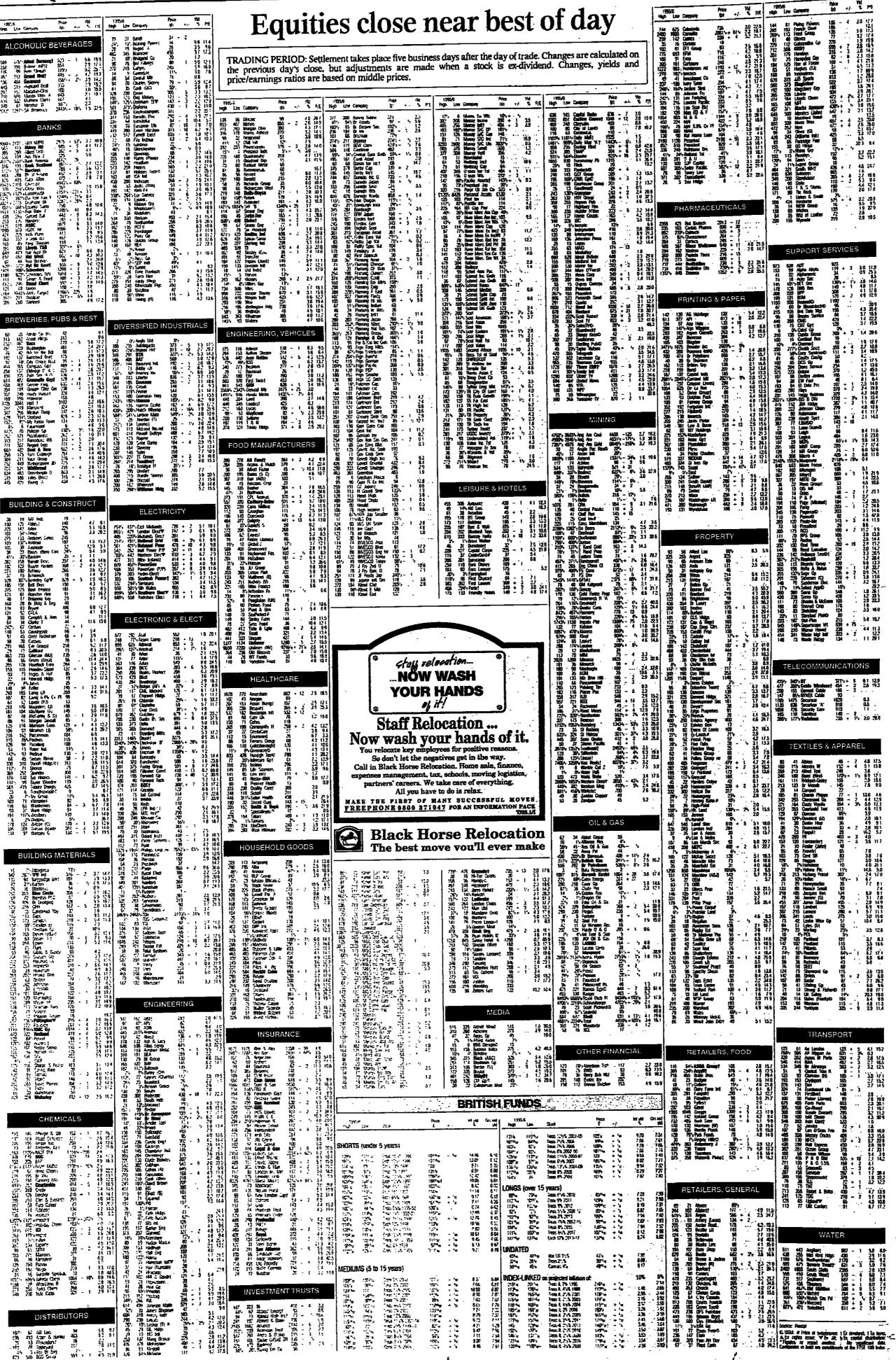
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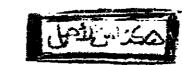
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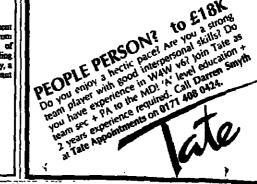
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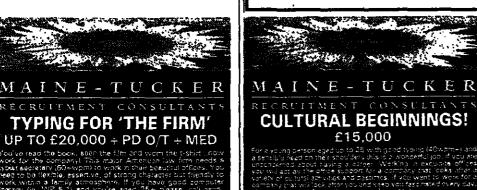
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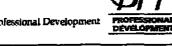


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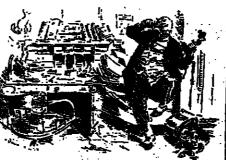
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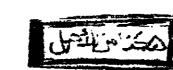
Candidates should have first class word processing and shorthand skills (60/100) with good Word 6 experience, be computer literate, unflappable under sustained pressure and have the flexibility to work evenings and weekends when necessary.

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A quiet spot to tie the knot

will these days? Until last April, the answer was only in a church or register office. Now ceremonies can be held in any licensed building in England and Wales, thanks to amendments to the Marriage Act first introduced by Gyles Brandreth, MP for Chester, as a Private Member's Bill. You can even plight your troth at Manchester United football ground.

There has been much talk of the more exotic locations where wedding parties can toast the bride and groom: Pinewood Studios, London Zoo, the Brighton Pavilion, a James Bond theme pub in Warwickshire called 007 and, naturally, licensed to wed. Stately homes have cashed in too. Eastnor Castle, the seat of the Harvey-Bathursts in Herefordshire, Castle Ashby in Northamp-tonshire, home to the Marquess of Northampton, and Powerham Castle near Exeter, home of the Earl of Devon, will all take the wedding shilling.

But a quieter revolution has been taking place in the nation's small farmhouses, cottages, bedand-breakfasts and country houses. Homeowners are realising that allowing couples to tie the knot in their front room is a

nice earner. Every year more than 350,000 people marry. More than half choose a civil wedding. There is no longer a residency restriction on civil marriages. And there is ready-made advertising provided by local register offices which provide a list of licensed venues. Not everyone wants the formal-

Admission is free

NEW HOMES

intimacy of a place like Trevigue farmhouse, near Bude in Comwall. Cosier venues typically appeal to second-timers. Janet Croker and her daughter-in-law, Gayle, host the civil ceremony. conducted by a visiting registrar. and the reception in Trevigue's dining room; larger parties of up to 30 can use the barn. Mrs Croker assures couples that "the Bude registrars conduct the cere-

mony very sensitively".

The joy of the wedding business, says Mrs Croker, is its predictability. Like most of those taking advantage of the legisla-tion. Mrs Croker was already involved in small-scale catering. serving cream teas and lunches at

But lunches in particular are unpredictable. It's terribly difficult because one day you may have to lay off staff, the next you are rushing around. With weddings you know in advance." Mrs Croker charges a £100 booking fee, and catering per head on top.

We have been inundated with inquiries," she says. "I would advise other homeowners thinking of getting involved that they must be ready to let their home be taken over. You must be enthusiastic about the whole process because it is someone else's special day." She also had to pay a £1,000 fee to the local council to

Council fees for civil marriage vary. Westminster charges £475 to license a room that holds 100, plus £50 per extra room. For rooms holding 100 to 500 people the charge is £500 plus £50 per extra room. Each licence



هكذا من الرجل

Kim Fletcher wanted to capture that country atmosphere for her wedding and chose Sandhole Farm in Cheshire

ONE CHESHIRE farmer and his wife have found that weddings dovetail well with their bed and breakfast business. David and Veronica Worth live at the 200-acre Sandhole Farm, near Hulme Walfield, Congleton, and began their B&B business in 1989. They can

sleep 36 guests.
Farm buildings have been tastefully converted and the barn, a large room with good setting for a civil wedding; it seats up to

is valid for five years and it is then

lengthy process. Some councils require homeowners to submit an

application form to include de-

tails of floor plans and all facilities. This is dispatched to

surveyors, planners, the fire bri-

gade and any other public service

in order that recommendations

Weddings have to take place

Applying for a licence can be a

Getting married The public had three weeks in which to object. A wedding service at the farm costs from £150, and the reception charge depends. in the country

 A conservatory in the main house is a second option as both areas are licensed. The Worths applied to Cheshire County Council for a £250 licence and had to give notice in the local paper outlining their plans.

on whether guests stay the night.

Kim Fletcher and Andrew Rae said "I do" at Sandhole. The idea of a farm had ready appeal for Kim, whose riding habit style dress was perfectly set off by the prop of a Sandhole horse. "The place has such a comfortable, peaceful feel that it really was an idyllic place to get married," she says.

be granted a licence following the 1995 Act. It is for sale through More than 600 licences have been granted for venues. The book Dream Weddings, by Liz Knight Frank with a guide price Bestic and Jim Bewsher, offers a of £2.5 million and boasts 32. guide to the 100 best wedding venues: while Sophie Lillingston "exceptional" bedrooms and a leisure club. from Lillingston Associates, a

 Sandhole Farm, Hulme Walfield, Congleton, Cheshire (0260 224419). ● Trevigue, Crackington Haven, Bude, Cornwall (01840 230418). ● Lillingston Associates (0171-736 3377).

• Dream Weddings, published by

Home is where the heart is

alentine's Day presents come no more generous than buying a love-nest. Here is a round-up of some of the finest

◆ Westbere Court, in the village of Westbere, near Canterbury, in Kent, is for sale for 1168,000 through Cluttons (01227 457441). This Grade II listed farmhouse dates from the late 17th century and was originally built as a dowry. It sports a large brick heart inset in the eastern end of the wall.

 Cound Hall, near Shrewsbury, is a Queen Anne Grade I listed house on sale for £750,000 through Knight Frank (0171-629 8171). It stands in 94 acres of romantic parkland with adjacent farmland; it has a five-acre lake, mature woodland and a walled garden. Allegedly, it was once the home of Dame Barbara Cartland.

 Myrtle Cottage in West Buckland, near Kingsbridge, south Devon is for sale for 179,500 through Marchand Petit (01548 857588). This semi-detached thatched cottage lies in a peaceful valley just inland from the sea, and comes complete with exposed stonework and beams, and a large raised stone fireplace with bread oven. Both double bedrooms provide views across the valley from the window seats.

 The handsome Corderries and Weaving Barn near Stroud in Gloucestershire, on the north bank of the Golden Valley, consists of a six-bedroom stone listed village house and an adjoining cottage, "The Weaving Barn", in 1.5 acres of grounds. It is on sale through Hamptons (01285 654535) for £465,000.

• Nappa House, near Newmarket, Suffolk is on sale for £300,000 through Bidwells (01223 841842). The Grade II listed detached, thatched, early 19th-century cottage has cast-iron lattices in the ground-floor windows.

RACHEL KELLY



Westbere Court was built as a dowry

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Those interested in buying a property with a licence might consider Miskin Manor, near Cardiff, one of the first hotels to

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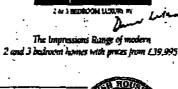
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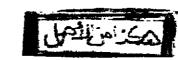
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The business is fast expanding. When Regus was estab-lished in Europe in 1989, it consisted of one centre overlooking Trafalgar Square. Now it has 15 centres in the UK, and in 1995 opened 15 centres in Europe. In 1996 40 openings are planned, including 20 within the UK.

Regus has also expanded into new markets including Johannesburg and Sao Paulo. while centres have been opened in Helsinki, Gothenburg. Zurich. Cologne and

Mark Dixon, Regus's managing director, explains that this rapid expansion is due to demand from occupiers. "Companies are increasingly using Regus centres to cope with needs including team rooms for special projects, and permanent but flexible branch offices to serve the local marChristopher

Warman on the rapid

expansion of

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ketplace. Our typical client needs well-located offices on flexible terms." He argues that companies

need to change the way in which they operate in increasingly competitive markets. They need to reduce fixed overheads, including property and staff: to be near their clients for sales and services; to cut down on time-consuming and costly business travel: and to take into account the desire by employees to enjoy working both in the office and at home.

Companies are already making more efficient use of office space through techniques such as "hot desking". and are looking for property that does not tie them into long-term lease commitments. Regus can let an office by the hour, and provides offices on one, three and 12-month arrangements. In addition it offers a "just-in-time" service allowing clients to use offices when and where they need.

Inside the office, the com-

companies to use individuals in remote locations, cutting film production company. Buena Vista Home Entertainment GmbH, recently took offices in Hamburg and Düsseldorf for the launch of The Lion King on video in

BP Nutrition has been renting space for ten months in the Brussels centre after consolidation of three of its offices. while for a shorter period Warner Bros recently used the Trafalgar Square centre to hold video-conferenced interviews between the singer, Seal, and journalists throughout

In Manchester, the Giants basketball team, preparing for the season, has regular meetings with its American-based owners. Using the Regus payas-you-view video-conferencing facilities at the World Trade Centre, Salford Quays, the team has face-to-face discussions with coaches and directors in Indiana. Mr Dixon says that a typical

centre comprises 15,000 sq ft, split into offices, and costs £500,000 to £1 million to set up. They are fully furnished, and include telecom facilities. reception areas with laser facsimiles, reproduction and desk top publishing, and meeting rooms with audiovisual



Manchester Giants outside the World Trade Centre

Mr Dixon says that Regus is now planning to expand national networks, beginning with the UK, Germany and the Benelux countries, and in the next five years aims to open 150 centres. These will include South African, Middle Eastern and Asian business cities of more than 100,000.

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population. Another priority is eastern Europe, where the Budapest office is already.

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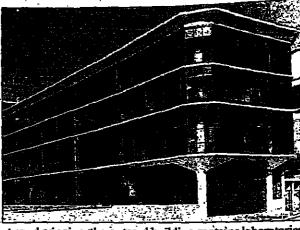
Boots

 The Boots Company, based in Nottingham, has won the top European prize, the Europa Nostra Medal, for conservation and restoration, for the Sir Owen Williams D10 building that is the headquarters of Boots Contract

Manufacturing.
The Boots building is the only medal winner among 40 UK entries, and out of 160 projects across Europe, only seven medals have been awarded. It is the largest Grade I listed industrial building in Britain, and Boots spent four years and some E20 million restoring the factory, which was designed by Sir Owen Williams in the 1930s.

Europa Nostra described it as "one of the most important British buildings of the Modern Movement". State-of-theart quality control laboratories and office space are enclosed within the listed building.

 Abbcott Estates Ltd. the developer of Daventry International Railfreight Terminal, has announced a



Award-winning the restored building contains laboratories

'£75-million funding ... agreement with Hermes. Property Asset Management, adviser to the British Telecom and Post Office Pension Funds. Hermes will finance construction of part of the 4 million sq ft inland port and distribution and manufacturing complex, and has agreed to acquire completed units as

The developer, a subsidiary of Severn Trent Property, is expected to start construction of the 350acre scheme, by Junction 18 of the MI, within three months. The rallport element will become operational in 1997.

investments.

 Arrowcroft has been given approval for its

proposed £50-million redevelopment of the Cumbernauld Town Centre. The signing of the development agreement follows the granting of planning permission by Cumbernauld Development Corporation for 300,000 sq ft of shopping. including four anchor stores and 50 shops. The project will link

into the existing shopping facilities and will almost double the shopping provision within Cumbernauld to around 675,000 sq ft. As part of the revitalisation of the town centre, extensive alterations are already underway to the existing road system. Joint leiting agents are Donaldsons. and Healey & Baker.

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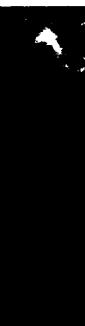
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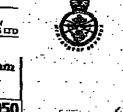
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HERITAGE A flood of good ideas to bring life back to the Thames

- but all depends

on John Gummer



MUSIC 1 Rachmaninov's music tests the conducting craft of the young Russian Mikhail Pletnev

THE



MUSIC 2

.. while at the Barbican Myung-Whun Chung powers the LSO through a Czech night



TOMORROW

How is Paul McCartney's new 'Fame' school doing? We sit in on lessons at the Liverpool Institute

Making more of the Thames is a priority for the millennium. But which schemes are feasible? Marcus Binney reports

How to revive London's river

every side. London's great millennium project must be the revival of the River Thames. There is a frenzy of projects for building new bridges and new Thames landmarks, as well as reviving old ones. Some of the biggest names in British architecture are involved. The ques-tion is: will anything be done? It all depends on one man:

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of State for the Environment, who, wearing his hat as Min-ister for London, wants to take all the decisions himself Gummer holds sway by virtue of his power to "call in" planning applications, announce inquiries and decide the outcome — accepting or rejecting his inspectors' recommendations as he sees fit. He has foxed everyone; first

by approving a hotly disputed proposal by Sir Richard Rog-ers to build a multi-storey apartment block beside Battersea Old Church, thereby alienating en bioc Conserva tive voters across the river in Chelsea. Then, days later, he announced an inquiry into the proposed Tower Bridge Opera House (which no one had objected to), killing off the project just as Credit Lyonnais had found a private investor to frame in

In the giddy Eighties, developers accepted inquiries as a matter of course. Today people simply back away. The Royal Opera House reckoned it would add a minimum of a year and £100,000 to the bill. Almost all current Thames

projects are potentially contenions and candidates for ministerial intervention. example, the architect Will Alsop has a daring plan to move the ICA from the Mall to a gallery constructed on the columns of old Blackfriars railway bridge. Beside it, he proposes a glass canopy over the modern railway bridge, ingeniously transforming it into a station serving both sides of the river. But the new station, although transparent. could interrupt views of St Paul's Cathedral. Similar objections could be made to all the proposals for elegant pedestrian bridges, such as Richard Horden's ingenious scheme for an inhabited bridge from Bankside to St Paul's, and to Sir Michael Hopkins's ingenious scheme

for a cable car across the Thames from Covent Garden to the Festival Hali.
If the whole Thames unitiative is not to be hamstrung, we need some smaller projects.
One of the best additions to the



Could the Thames in central London once more carry a bustling riverboat trade, as it did when this late 19th-century photograph was taken?

Thames is the Buddhist pagoda built by visiting monks on the Battersea Park promenade. Why not a series of intriguing and colourful landmarks on this scale? They would be the modern-day equivalent of the towers and follies in 18th-century parks and the arches erected to celebrate coronations. They could be built on temporary licences. If the public liked them, they could stay. Hop-kins has another good thought on these lines - for pontoon gardens floating on the river in front of Somerset House and The Temple. If the first was a success, more could be built; with bars and cafes.

Trees provide some of the most beautiful vistas along the river. Stand in the middle of Albert Bridge and you would hardly know you were in London. Splendid mature trees line both banks until the

Thames curves out of sight. Turn around, and the trees continue on the north side, but not on the south side where there is a dismal cluster of apartment blocks. Build a new embankment wall here, no more than 15 feet or so high, and another stretch of the Thames could be green for

centuries to come. We need to bring the Thames to life at night, Albert and Tower Bridges are superbly lit, but much of the river is dark at night. A few lights shining down on the water from a new pedestrian bridge would give Londoners a glimpse of the teeming fish we never see. And think what a sculptor such as Michael Pye, who designed the waterfall façade of the British Pavilion at the Seville Expo, could do simply with choreographed vertical jets of water lit by

changing coloured lights.

In previous centuries, there was a fantastic amount to see on the Thames. "Such a forest of masts for miles together that you think all the ships of the universe here assembled." said Tobias Smollett.

The key issue is how to revive the water traffic. "Regular passenger services are not feasible," says David Jeffrey. chief executive of the Port of London Authority. "It is not possible to make the Thames semi-tidal or non-tidal above the Thames Barrier. It would flood London. You would lose all the fish and the wildlife in and on the river." Strong stuff. But others are not so sure.

Maldwin Drummond, author of the visionary plan for a new high-masted royal yacht. points out that the narrow arches of old London Bridge acted as a weir, leaving calmer water above and below. "Read Pepys and you will see that

most people got out of their boats at London Bridge and let the watermen plunge through, then got in on the other side."

A key question is whether devices such as fish ladders could be used to keep the river alive. "At the moment the tide is too fast for a waterbus service," says Drummond. Going down to Greenwich on the ebb and returning on the flood does not provide a prop-er timetable."

In the year 2000 there is the exciting possibility of holding the Lord Mayor's Show on the Thames. The City's livery companies can bring the river to life with pageantry. This year Drummond becomes Prime Warden of the Fishmongers' Company. He says: "Six companies should be racing on the Thames this summer with newly-built cutters - 30ft gigs which can be

converted into ceremonial barges with canopies."

Everything depends on reconciling genuine concerns for wildlife with the opportunity to make renewed use of this once great highway. With millennium celebrations in prospect at Greenwich, whether or not the official lestival is held there, the Thames could be alive again with boats.

A ride in a waterbus or water taxi should be as much part of a visit to the capital as catching a red double-decker or hailing a black cab. London's river traffic was once as bustling, varied and colourful as that of Venice or Istanbul. The city has a very long way to catch up, but that is all the more reason for

● A lecture on The Potential of the Thames will be held at 6.30pm tonight in Westminster Central Hall, SWI (0171-332 3770)

CONCERTS: Spirited Prokofiev; Pletnev proves himself; a Janáček Mass

Alive and kicking

BBC SO/Gelmetti Festival Hall

rokofiev's Fifth Symphony in B Flat — along with the Classical, his best known — was written in a short space of time in the summer of 1944, although some of its material dates back to the previous decade.

Much was expected of the composer victory over Germany was imminent, and the audience that gathered for the premiere in Moscow, in January 1945, was hoping for an unequivocal expression of nat-

ional pride and optimism.

That Prokofiev gave them was certainly uplifting — he himself said that he conceived the work as "glorifying the human spirit". But, being Prokofiev, it was anything but unequivocal.

A convincing performance of the symphony has to catch that characteristic glint of irony: there is nothing strictly comparable to the forced revicing of Shostakovich's Fifth. but there needs to be a constant awareness of the tensions simmering beneath

Gianluigi Gelmetti's performance with the BBC Symphony Orchestra last Thursday

night by and large did justice to the work. There may have been questionable details and occasional untidinesses, but the essential spirit of the interpretation was right.

Richard Horden's model for an inhabited bridge to

St Paul's: one of several proposed new Thames bridges

Gelmetti has a way of keeping something in reserve, so that even if one felt slightly shortchanged by the cumulating energies of the first movement as a whole, there was at least a very effective eruption waiting in the final bars. The Scherzo, too, had a

lethal kick in store for the closing moments, and al-though the articulation of those driving rhythms might have been a touch more incisive. Gelmetti had the sense to let the subterranean savagery reveal itself without too heavy underlining.

The pungent lyricism of the Adagio was satisfactorily captured, and the finale aptly riotous. Earlier, in the first half, Geimetti seemed to suggest that Webern's Passacaglia could be viewed as a miniature Expressionist tone poem, in a performance that played up its dramatic potential

It would be idle to pretend that Dvořák's Violin Concerto in A Minor was as great a work as his better known Cello Concerto. Certainly there were moments in the rhapsodic first movement and in the meditative slow movement that failed to hold the attention. But it is good to hear the piece occasionally, and Uto Ughi brought to bear both a secure technique and a fine sense of lyrical fantasy...

> BARRY MILLINGTON was conducting Tchaikovsky

Russian on the way up

CBSO/Pletnev Symphony Hall, Birmingham

ikhail Pletnev's concert with the City of L Birmingham Symphony Orchestra was well timed. Just when the audience in Symphony Hall was wondering where the next brilliant young conductor was coming from, here was a vivid demonstration that such musicians do exist. By the time the present music director's contract expires, in two years' time. Plemey will be the same age as Sir Simon Rattle is now, and perhaps even capable of carrying on where he leaves - although in a Russian-

orientated direction. These observations are intended neither as prophecy nor as advocacy. With a few distinguished exceptions, Russian conductors tend to be less convincing outside their national repertoire. While Pletney the pianist is not limited in this way, Pletney the conductor has emerged in the last two or three years largely on the strength of his interpretations of Russian music. On this occasion with the CBSO he

and Rachmaninov. But he did prove, in his minimally demonstrative way, that you don't have to be Rattle to bring out the best in the CBSO. There are others of his generation who can do the same. Where the orchestra did not

sound at its best under Pletnev's direction was in those passages in Rachmani-Second Symphony which failed in balance. Far too often, perhaps because Plemev is used to a different kind of string playing, the violins carrying the melodic line were overwhelmed by the wind sections. This was all the more frustrating in that Plemev is uncommonly persuasive in phrasing romantic melody. It did not seriously detract, on the other hand, from the long-term value of an interpretation so well calculated in structure and so effectively profiled in its climaxes. small cut in the last movement was unnecessary.

Another exceptional quality in Pletney is that he is prepared to take on Tchaikovsky's orchestral suites. They are not uniformly inspired, it is true, but where there is so much characteristic Tchaikovsky sound and so much authentic Tchaikovsky melody it is surely worth the occasional conscientious fugue or dainty gavotte to get at the rest. Pletnev's decision to omit the Scherzo from the Suite No 1 in D was not surprising. But it is still an interesting piece even if it is not as attractive as, say, the engagingly romantic Intermezzo or the delightfully playful Miniature March.

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Spirited canter through Czech mass

HAVING survived the fraces at the Opera Bastille in Paris that brought his departure after a five-year stint as its music director, Myung-Whun Chung has been busily spreading his wings further afield. His migrations among the too international orchestras brought him to Landon for two concerts with the London Symphony Orchestra, of which the first him unusually at home in a speramme of two Czech masterpieces.

His operatic experience came to the fore n Janacek's Glagolitic Mass, no longer in oddball curiosity, but an admired lassic. The dramatic character of this lavonic mass expresses a white hot priviction in the Christian faith, less as a iturgical devotion than a festive celebra-ion. The Korean conductor generated the

LSO/Chung Barbican Hall

requisite spirit in a keen blend of voices

and orchestra. The London Symphony Chorus, with Malcolm Hicks as guest chorus master, voiced no inhibitions about getting their tongues around the original text, but the thunderous amplification of the long organ solo near the end was less to be welcomed than Catherine Edwards's

virtuoso playing of it. disproposionate, but the Slovakian so-prano Andrea Dankova from the Nat-ional Theatre in Bratislava, who is

expected at Glyndebourne in 1997, made an impressive British debut with a voice of lyric fullness. She was matched for fervour by the Russian tenor Sergej Larin, while Anne-Marie Owens and Stephen Richardson contributed the shorter mezzo and bass solos to expressive effect.

An edge to the orchestra's string tone was more acceptable in the Mass than in Dvotak's D major Symphony (No 6) which preceded it Chung drove this forward at a brisk pace, although he seemed content to express only what was obvious on the surface, except in the trio of the scherto movement where the Vocal solos in the work are oddly application of a finer brush disclosed

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Noel Goodwin



FILMS

Shakespeare the Hollywood way: Kenneth Branagh defends his part in the new Othello



VISUAL ART

The inspiration for a thousand tea towels: eccentric tributes to Constable's The Cornfield



Jonathan Miller provides a quizzical kind of staging for Handel's superb Rodelinda



POP

A veteran talent returns: Kiki Dee turns in a performance of admirable depth and passion

Away win for Handel fans

THE main hall was packed to the gunwales for Monday's semi-staged performance of Handel's opera, which must have given the driver of the last train back to town a nasty shock — a platform filled to overflowing suggested a foot-ball match that no one had warned him about.

Operagoers are of course better behaved than most football supporters, but only just. The evening started with some aggro from the crowd when the conductor, Nicholas Kraemer, drew attention to the libretto printed in the programme and then someone daused the lights. Angry protests from the stands, the lights came up again and we could all follow the text in

authentic 18th-century style. Jonathan Miller's semistaging was minimalist. The singers in evening dress, all of whom had their roles by heart, sat at a table groaning with bottles of (I trust) mineral water, rose when required to take part in the action and looked on with varying de-grees of interest when not. You knew someone was a wrong 'un when he sang an aria with

his hands in his pockets. Rodelinda (1725) comes from one of Handel's great periods, immediately after Giulio Cesare and Tamerlano. As so often, you spend the first act thinking what a jolly good opera composer he was. Then, in the second and third, he throws aria after aria at you of such prodigious musical invention and dramatic insight that you realise he was beyond doubt one of

OPERA

Rodelinda Blackheath Concert Halls

the form's founding and everpresiding geniuses. He was especially good at villains slithery vocal lines and jagged progressions to show their rwisted mental processes.
Inspired by Kraemer's buoyant conducting, the fine

cast did the score proud. especially two outstanding counter-tenors from the new generation whose ease of voice production demands that you dub them sopranos who happen to be men. Daniel Taylor sang the Senesino role of Bertarido with astonishing purity of tone and musicianship, and Robin Blaze his faithful squire equally easily.

Catherine Robbin's velvety.

crisply defined mezzo was perfect for the wronged Eduige, Christopher Purves made an appropriately inyour-face baddie as Garibaldo, and Adrian Thompson, while not in steadiest voice, drew a fine portrait of the usurper Grimoaldo who sees the error of his ways. Sophie Daneman, sang beautifully but seemed a little polite for a lady who has a pair of villains to dely and thinks she has lost her husband not just once, but twice.

RODNEY MILNES

Moor sex and violence



Central figures in "a relationship that produces violence": Desdemona (Irène Jacob), Othello (Laurence Fishburne) and Iago (Kenneth Branagh)

o the purist, cinematic treatment of any one of Shakespeare's plays may seem like a crime not unlike turning the Globe Theatre into a Disney theme park. But to Kenneth Branagh, who has more or less made a career out of demystifying, resuscitating and rein-terpreting the works of the Bard for mass consumption, it is what the man DANCE

himself would have wanted. If Shakespeare were alive Branagh suggests, he would be perched high in the Hollywood Hills. penning his latest script directly for the cinema screen. "He would probably be on the Internet too," Branagh says. And it is true that many of the plays have all the elements of a contempo-

rary blockbuster. Little wonder, then, that Hollywood producers are jostling to turn out Shakespeare films in unprecedented quantities: currently there are three Romeo and Juliet productions. Branagh's own Hamlet, two versions of Richard III and a Quentin Tarantino adaptation of Macbeth. The latter should be a special treat for Shake-

spearean scholars. But Branagh contends that none is more appropriate to cinematic treatment than Othello, with its themes of love, murder, jealousy, betrayal and racism. Forget the tragedy tag: its director, Oliver Parker, is now happy to sell Othello to audiences on the basis that it is an "erotic thriller".

Branagh, who has produced, directed and acted in screen versions of Henry V and Much Ado About Nothing, this time confines his contribution solely to performance: he plays the villain lago with charm-coated malice. He does not balk at the director's description of the latest Othello any more than he does at what others might perceive as the bastardisation of the Bard's work.

Kenneth Branagh tells Martyn Palmer why he is happy to star in an Othello described

by its director as an 'erotic thriller'

6 This version

speaks to an

audience on a

visceral

level 9

*Othello is an interesting example of how directly Shakespeare can speak to people," he says. "I don't think anybody needs any qualifications for ving the chance to enjoy the movie other than having been in love, perhaps, and understanding that with that goes mild or extreme forms of

jealousy from time to time. "It isn't about politics or kings and queens. It is about a very simple triangu-

lar domestic relationship that produces domestic violence, something that is with us now and has been for 400 years. Shakespeare seems to have been on to that, and to have had a view on almost every human situation

there is. Branagh believes that Shakespeare on film can speak directly to young minds in a way that dusty school textbooks cannot. "I get letters from teachers and children who say, and I agree with them, that on the page it does not live in the same way. It is only fully alive when it is embodied

by actors. It very much lives in performance. In the new film version Othello comes with 60 per cent of the original text cut away and new scenes added: very different from the classic Olivier film, which remained heavily anchored in a stage production. But the new movie remains a period piece, beautifully filmed at the lush locations of Venice and Bracciano Castle to the north of Rome, but with a contemporary flavour.

The \$11-million production, funded green light when Branagh's bankable name was attached to it. But Branagh says that this new Othello is very much Parker's vision. He is the son of the former British Rail boss Sir Peter

Parker, his brother Nathaniel plays Cassio. The director believes that the tragedy had to be "reinvested with passion and romance A first-time feature director who played

lago in repertory six years ago, he admits that he cut down on Shakespeare's text to emphasise what he terms the "thriller as-

pect" of Othello. "Once I decided I was thinking cinematically it was actually quite liberating, because it is a different medium," he says. "You would do it a disservice if you did it with the original text. Shakespeare didn't write it for film and if he had done so he would have written it differently.

"If he was around now I'm sure he would be using visual imagery more. Words were his weapon at the time. but now it's different. I was trying to be true to the spirit of it rather than the specific text."

Branagh agrees that it is the filmmaker's job to re-evaluate classic work. "It must be fuelled by the film-maker's response to the play." he says. "Oliver's script was full of that on every page. There is a sense of atmosphere and a sense of what he wanted to convey. He knew what he was doing.
"Olivier's film of Othello is very

much a recording of a theatrical performance. It is much less cinematic than the Orson Welles 1951 film, which was a bit of a trailblazer: igreverent, if you like, in the way it was put together. And Oliver Parker's version of Othello does speak directly to an audience on a visceral level. It doesn't bring historical baggage with it, it lives absolutely

In America, critical response to the film has been mixed. The New Yorker called it "trash"; the Los Angeles Times said it was "refreshingly unpreten-tious". But Branagh's performance has received excellent reviews.

"I'd seen the play lots of times and had been in it once before, as Cassio." he says. "It's always good for an actor to play a villain, especially somebody who, by the end, seems devoid of remorse and regret, someone who has developed an infoxicating glee with the

idea of manipulating people."

More Branagh Shakespeare is on the way. His own screen version of Hamlet, with himself in the lead and a cast that includes John Gielgud, Jack Lemmon, Charlton Heston, Billy Crystal, Gérard Depardieu, Rufus Sewell, Derek Jacobi, Julie Christie and even Ken Dodd (as Yorick) is in production

The greatest straight part ever written," is how Branagh describes the Prince of Denmark. "It would be very hard for me to persuade an actor to do it the way that I'd like, given that it fits into a view of the play which is very particular. So yes, now I'm doing it all over again. How stupid is that?"

Othello will be reviewed tomorrow and opens on Friday

POP A voice for all seasons

AS TALK turns towards next week's Brit Awards and the paucity of female talent suggested by another uninspiring list of nominees in that category, here was an evening of timely encouragement. Some 30 years after her recording debut and 15 after her last solo chart appearance, one of Britain's most seasoned but, lately, under-celebrated vocalists is back in the running.

Kiki Dee's return to recording and live work is, to say the most of it, understated. Last autumn, the Tickety-Boo laby released the splendid but almost entirely overlooked Al-most Naked, an "unplugged" concert album on which she was accompanied only by guitarist Carmelo Luggeri. This show reprised that record, as a healthy Jazz Cafe turnout of old fans and inquis-itive newcomers was treated to almost two hours of versatility that even her chart years only

Assured indeed is the performer who, edging back towards the mainstream, feels no obligation to rush into her hits. Dee, elegant in long coat

> Kiki Dee Jazz Café

and winning smile, fashioned the set around unfamiliar songs, some of them of her own composition and all showing an admirable absence of cliché.

See Me Through, she told us with typical Yorkshire openness, was written "in about five minutes after a date with a bloke I quite fancied" You Won't See Me Crying, another original, eloquently expressed the fragility of a iilted lover's survival instincts.

But it was Dee's adaptability that gave the performant: such depth. One struggles to think of many other singed who could interpret songs by Jane Siberry, Willie Dixon, the Young Rascals and Smokey Robinson with uniform dexterity. Siberry's irreverent Miss Punta Blanca and Dixon's deep-blues Spoonful were unlikely bedfellows, but benefited from Dee's fluid, unhurried approach and Luggeri's equally flexible accompaniment, as did the Rascals' Good Lovin' and Robinson's

- : t

10 / 10

With such delicacies in the mixture, the references to several of her own past achievements formed a rich icing. Don't go Breaking my Heart underwent an acoustic deconstruction, Amoureuse, was once again an exquisite love song and Loving and Free? helped further to emphasise that the stock of this craftswoman has long been seriously undervalued.

Ain't that Peculiar.

PAUL SEXTON ,

Wheeling and able

EACH performance by CandoCo is remarkable: ling like bicycles, people balancing on one leg or one hand. This may sound like a bunch of circus acrobats, but CandoCo actually consists of able-bodied and wheelchairusing dancers.

CandoCo owes its success not just to novelty: its performers are talented and have a repertoire of a calibre conventional companies should seek to emulate. Rather than suffocating creativity, the physical restrictions and wheelchairs seem to have stimulated most choreographers to an inspired inventiveness.

This rule holds firm with the handsome new piece. You Are Now Entering the State of Love, shown as part of CandoCo's two sold-out London performances. Lea Parkinson, one of the company's male dancers, has devised an imaginative duet for Sue Smith and David Toole.

The piece begins with images of the heavens, the sea and the remarkably broad hands which — for those familiar with CandoCo belong unmistakably to Toole. When John Henderson's sensitive lighting plot brightens the stage, Toole's singular

THE TIMES

CandoCo Queen Elizabeth Hall

shape becomes evident, offering the illusion of being half sunk into the stage because he has no lower limbs. His long. nowerful arms sweep sideways with the dramatic breadth of an eagle's wingspan, enabling him to walk. twist and balance in extraordinary feats of virtuosity.

Lea Parkinson partnered the wheelchaired Celeste Dandeker in Darshan Singh Bhuller's Once Upon a Time in England and most of the company assembled for their popular energiser, Back to Front With Side Shows by Emilyn Claid.

In this scheme. Toole is the centre, with his vivid, significant glances and blazing physical prowess. The muscular effort, though, has taken its toll and he is retiring to start a film career. With so many pieces tailored to his unique abilities, his departure will leave CandoCo with a gaping hole in its repertoire.

NADINE MEISNER

Call of the Cam

IN THE spring, a Theatre Club member's fancy turns to thoughts of getting away from it all for a weekend of fun and entertainment. From May 3 to 5, the first club excursion of the year

will take members to Cam-bridge, for two evenings of opera. After an early dinner on the Friday at your hotel. the University Arms, it's off to the Corn Exchange for English Touring Opera's production of Massenet's romantic tragedy. Werther. After

breakfast on Saturday morning there is a visit — by punt — to the picturesque village of Grantchester, setting for Rupert Brooke's famous poem The Old Vicarage (now home to Lord Archer). Near to the Old Vicarage are the incomparable Orchard Tea Gardens, where Stephen Medcalf, ETO's director of productions, will join you to give a talk about Saturday evening's opera, Verdi's magnificent Rigoletto. The weekend finishes after break-

The all-inclusive price of £192 per person includes best seats for both operas with complimentary programme and a glass of wine in the interval, and two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast. To book, telephone 01223 351241

HOW TO BOOK — AND JOIN

TO BOOK, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a

special price negotisted by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage TO JOTN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164. Colchester CO2 81L, or telephone 01206 791737 using your credit card. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673

THIS WEEK'S OTHER OFFERS

LONDON Criterion Theatre

■ AFTER a sell-out world tour, the Reduced Shakespeare Company returns with The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged!). All 3i of Shakespeare's plays are presented in just 97 minutes, including Titus Andronicus as a gailop ing gourmet and a rap Othello. Best available seats £15 (normally £20) for any performance except Satur-day evenings. Tel 0171-369

SOUTH SHIELDS The Customs House

Feb 20, 21 TWO tickers for the price of one (normally £7.50 to 59,50) for the gripping horror story. The Woman in Black. Tel 0191-454 1234

BRIGHTON Theatre Royal

TWO tickets for the price John Godber's comedy.

EDINBURGH Traverse Theatre Feb 28

of one (normally £12.50) for Lucky Sods. Tel 01273 328488

● TWO rickets for the price

of one (normally £7) to The Architect, David Greig's cut-

ting portrait of one man and his dysfunctional family. Tel 0131-228 1404

CHELTENHAM Everyman Theatre Feb 19-24

of one (normally £4.50 to £13.50) to see the adaptation of Stephen King's psychological thriller. Misery. Tel 01323 4L2000

PLYMOUTH Pavilion Theatre Feb 26. 27

Discombe's bitter-sweet Haifway to Paradise. Tel 01752 229922

Thorndike Theatre Feb 28. 29; Mar I, 4-6 SAVE ≤3 on top-price tickets 'normally (16) for Feydeau's wickedly funny play. Emily Needs Attention.

BOLTON Octagon Theatre Mar S. 15, 22 ● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £3.75 to

520661

£12.501 for Arthur Miller's

powerful drama. A View

From the Bridge. Tel 01204

hen John Constable wrote, in a letter to a Friend dated April 8. 1826, "I do hope to sell this

certainly got a little more eyesalve than I usually condescend to give them." he set The TWO tickets for the price Cornfield on its journey through history. And it is the journey, as much as the pic-

original, which has been at the Gallery since 1837, but a ● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £7) to Nick selection of reproductions, plates, tea-trays, clocks, cushions, thimbles and biscuit tins, onto which the image has found its way in the last 170 years. With each item there is LEATHERHEAD a photograph of its owner, and

the image on it. The curator Colin Painter. of the Wimbledon School of Art, came upon the idea for the starting Felicity Kendal. Tel 01372 377677 exhibition while working on his PhD thesis in Newcastle in the early 1980s. "I was going into all sorts of houses and taking photographs." he says. and the only area of decora-

> was Constable. "A lot of people are angry about contemporary art, and this exhibition is partly about ways in which art could find

tive commonality, across all

social groups and incomes.

ture, that is celebrated in a

fascinating exhibition at the

National Gallery from today.

At Home with Constable's

Comfield features not only the

a statement about their rela-

tionship with the object, and

A new exhibition celebrates the enduring appeal of a Constable landscape Fertile field



Jim Nippress: fears for the future of the countryside

its way into people's homes more. The Comfield is very suitable because of characteristics that make it particularly appealing: the countryside, the peace and tranquillity -things we have lost, that make the picture 'relevant' in an environmental sense."

This point is echoed by Mrs Elizabeth Pett, whose firescreen is one of Professor Painter's favourite exhibits. She was one of 500 people who responded to a notice placed next to the painting in the National Gallery which requested the loan of related objets from members of the

"I am 60 now, and when I was young there was a lot of countryside around London. The picture reminds me of a walk I used to take on Sundays just after the war, from Sideup to Chislehurst. The lane even turned the same way as in the picture, but it has all been built up now.

"It has been my favourite picture shace my mother gave me a birthday card with it on as a teenager. I saw the

original for the first time last February and thought it rath er orangey, much more like a copy my husband once bought me than the firescreen."

For retired handyman Jim Nippress, who lives on the fourteenth floor of a tower. block near Heathrow, and has a reproduction, it is the dog. that is important. He is not allowed to have one. But he does have urban angst about . the countryside. "Youngsters today will never see things like that picture. It'll all be taken up with concrete buildings and roads."

Another exhibitor, Andrew Smith, had it on the landing at home as a child, and his brother claimed to be the boy in the picture. Andrew wanted it to be him — and found as he grew up that he always mea: sured himself in terms of the drinking boy.

Professor Painter insists that "when they talk about their picture, they talk about their lives". He complains that, "N' say 'I like The Comfield because it reminds me of Suffolk' is not considered a relevant way to talk about in art." It may, however, he a way to make art more

GILES COREN ● At Home with Constal Ses Coff field is at the National Gallett. Trafalgar Square, London WC (0171-839 3321) until April 21



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■ THEATRE

That lurid old melodrama, East Lynne, gets a partially successful feminist twist in a new staging



E CHOICE 1

Birtwistle's Nenia, Death of Orpheus is staged in London VENUE: Tonight at the Regent Hall





■ CHOICE 2

Michael Gambon transfers to the West End in David Hare's Skylight

VENUE: Now in preview at Wyndham's Theatre



TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment

complied by Kris Anderson

ABBENDENN Scottish Opera goes on trus with a young cast and some mandescent conducting for Verte's La translate Care Rubbe makes tight work of Violetia's role and Paul Charles Clarke is an outstanding Alfredo Director Man Tinkler has also produced a very yeagnative company dobut with Humperdon's Named and Great His Majesty's. Rosemount Vacuus (19124 641127) Tonight Str. 7 15pm. §].

MORWICH Suilduggary and deception abound as Proteins Knot s. Dial M for Murder returns to the stage Peter Dawson and Catherine Report star as the married couple with secret passions, with Peter Bourke, Richard Lintern and John Vine A Mobil Touring Theathe production.

Theatre production.
Theatre Royal. Theatre Street (01603-630 000), Tonght-Sat, 7.30pm mas.
Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm (5)

MOTTINGHAM: Last chance to see the entinent Romanum director Struu Purcarete's The Yempest before it

ELSEWHERE

■ CHOICE 3

while Craig Raine's 1953, updating Racine, opens in Islington **VENUE:** From tonight at the Almeida

embarks on a world bur First seen here but September, Purceiver's version is a mysterously haurting speciacle, with all the human characters except

Prospero in modern dives. A real treat a sometimes a stightly confusing one Playhouse. Wellington Cross (0115-94) 9419/ Tonight Fr. 7 30pm (6)

SOUTHAMPTON: A new Carderella sales a bow tonghe ex-Royal Ballet Michael Corder's last full executing work to be seen in Busen is done for English Hadional Ballet David Water promises cumpsious designs for the world's most igmous tary tale, and Proutles & scoro has been rectored to

es error; MayBower, Commercal Road (01703-711 611) Yongte-Sat 7 30pm mots Theas and Set 2 30pm (5)

Entlish Museum Cryo and kyoto partings (0171-636 1555) Matthiasean Gallery Leganor and his Sculptural Legany 1875-1930 (0171-330 4215) Matthiasean Gallery Leganor and his Sculptural Legany 1875-1930 (0171-747 285) National Pouces (0171-747 2865) National Pouces (0171-747 2865) National Pouces (0171-747 2865) National Pouces (0171-306 0055) Royal College of Art Design of the times 100 Year of the RCA (0771-364 5020) Serpentine Jana Serba (0171-379 9072). Tate Cezanne (0171-887 8000) V & A Jan Ast from India (0171-958 8500)

LONDON GALLERIES

A winning hand overplayed

East Lynne Greenwich

f you go to SEIO expecting to hear the words "Dead, and never called me Mother!", you will be disappointed. Rightly so, for they did not originate in Mrs Henry Wood's novel, but in one of the marty stage adaptations that hit London during the 1870s: three in 1879. alone. However, the line was of a piece with the hiss-the-villain, ogle-the-fallen-heroine melodrama the book had by then become. I have read one such version, and the climax is equally fund. "Look at me, I am your mother," says poor Lady Isabel to the son she abandoned, and the lad faintly gasps "Mama" as he falls back in her arms, dead from TB.

Lisa Evans's new adaptation is as different as sensitivity and several dollops of rueful feminism can make it. We have watched impoverished Isabel marry safe but dull Archibald Carlyle, only to be duped into eloping with the dashing Cartain Levison, who eventually dumps herein France. Disguised as a governess, she staggers back to East Lynne, where sign finds her little boy has taken a turn for the worse. And Rachel Power's excellent isabel simply emits incoherent shrieks and impotent wails as he expires where he should: offstage and untended by her.

Evans is more interested in exposing a cruel world, full of jealousy, frustration and unexpressed anger, than in generating pathos. She also tries as best she can not altogether easy, given the plots coincidences and improbabilities, not in mention the sensations in the background. "Richard 'Are murdered me father." "How awful!" "Yus, it was. Worse for father." No actors could prevent an audience laughing at that exchange, and Rebecca Saire and Power fail to do so.

Yet they and the three other members of Philip Franks's adaptable cast - much helped by Robert Jones's gaunt, draped, cobwebby set - manage to inject more reality into the old thunderer than I had thought possible. They play it straight and pretty often get us to take it seriously. They leave us boggling at a society where a warm, artless woman such as Lady Isabel can never atone adequately for a sexual sin that has largely been caused by her husband's patronising stupidity, at her seducer's callous exploitation of the

THE Umbilical Brothers look

as though they could be blood

brothers: a similar lean phy-sique identical greyish-black-ish frousers, likewise the red

lins, make a blood relation-

They are comedians, and

Australian, and the conceit of

the opening scene is to have

them waking up down there.

rush by taxi and plane to

London, parachute over the

theatre and fall to their deaths.

Cut to heaven (puffs of smoke, zombie walks) where God

says there is only room for one

ship unlikely.



Rachel Power and Lloyd Owen in Lisa Evans's fine adaptation of East Lynne

language of love, and at the mass brainwashing of the women on show. Unfortunately, Evans lacks trust in her story and her audience. You would do

best to linger over your interval drinks, for the first moments of Act II consist of Isabel reading from the novel and telling us how Mrs Henry Wood was terrorising her readers into embracing 19th-century values. That is a bit like asking an actor half-way through playing Macbeth to give a homily on Shakespeare's dislike of

Double act of mime and raspberries

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evil. I would also advise you to leave just before the final curtain. That way you will miss the claim that women's lot is as chilling now as then.

Why editorialise at all when you are already giving new life and, with it, meaning to a piece that has long been synonymous with Victorian crudity? That is quite an achievement, but Evans, Franks and their team have brought it off.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Heavy on the palette

Gentileschi is a cause célèbre in art history. The painter Orazio Gentileschi, one of Caravaggio's circle, encour-aged his daughter to learn his craft. Thus she became a working woman and artist in her own right, exceptional for

the 17th century. She began as an apprentice to her father. To further her education, he asked the Florentine painter Agostino Tassi to teach her the rules of perspective. But a relationship developed between them that ended in a rape trial of which the testimonies survive. Artemisia, subjected to torture to verify her evidence, surprisingly won. Tassi was found guilty. The year after the trial, Artemisia finished her vision

Artemisia Turtle Key Arts Centre, SW6

of Judith, a work of startlingly graphic violence in which Judith is shown decapitating Holofernes.

Now playwright Anne-Marie Casey and the film-trained director Joy Perino have taken up Artemisia's case. Unfortunately, this treatment proves to be dumsy, both in its scripting and its multimedia approach. The slides are perfecily acceptable. Saving actress Victoria Scarborough from having to paint, Artemisia's works are projected on to the large gauze "canvases" that hang from

Turtle Key's rafters. Framed between extracts from the trial, events leading up to the rape are straightforwardly enacted by a cast of four in period costume. The fourth player is Orazio's tenant, Donna Medaglia (Eliza Hunt), who is seduced by Tassi (Dominic Matham), then acts as his procuress.

The determined Scarbor-

DESPERADO (18) Overblown follow-up to El Manach, with Antonio Banderas as the guitar-playing killer seeking engeance. Director, Robert Rodriguez. Clapham Pichary House (0171-498 3323) MGMer. Chaissas (0171-352 5096) Haymaritet (0171-839 1627) Tottenham Court Road (0171-436 6148) Ritzer 80171-373 21210 UCC ough and the bullying Matham are able performances. But pseudo-Caravag-Whiteleys (5) (0171-792 3332) Warner (5) (0171-437 4343) gio video footage crudely intrudes with the story of ◆ JOHNMY MINEMONIC (15). The JOHNNY MINERONIC (15). The Yeluza want the contents of Keanu Reeves's head Pulursiic folly trom cyberpunk author William Gibson. Director. Robert Longo.

Odeons: Kensington (01426 91488) West End (01428 915574) Judith, puzzlingly played by Medaglia and not Artemisia. Casey's play does embrace

some complexities concerning the rape as the relationship involved marriage promises and mutual attraction. This, ◆ A LTTLE PHARCESS (the Children's classic, with Lessi Matthews as the boarding school gri plunged from niches to rags. Detector, Alforsto Cuardin. MGBis: Chelses (0171-352 5096). Totischeric Court Read (0171-635 6148) Trocadero (2) (0171-434 0031). UCI Whiteleys (3) (0171-792 3332). Wattermans (0181-558 1176). however, does not stop the dialogue being heavy-handed, or the dramatic structuring and application of modern feminist theories being

KATE BASSETT

SICYLIGHT Michael Gambon and Lia SINT-IGHT Mortael Gambon and Lia Williams say in David Hare's transaction of concept is conflicted in the form of a probly reunion between two lovers. Referred Eyes accolament production, transferred from the National thacher Canus Bett concept. Wyndfamms, Charrier Chook, W12, 9171-363 1736). Previous beginning. congre Born, met Sat, Com. Opens Feb. 20, Yorn

1959 Opening fight for Emma Fielding Jacon Islands and Adam Kotz, playing the lear roles in Oracy Rame's version of Recomplish Antibonisms. updated to an imagined bely ruled by Massidin's som Pather Marber (sucher of Desert A. Desert Harber (sucher of Departs Charact, denotes.

Almeida, Auto-da Street N1 (0171-358

4404) Tongit, Tom ThenMon-Sat bott mat Sat, April Unit Mar 30 (5)

controllate presented. The, "eacher, rice chamber group has earned consistent practs for its strangitume programmes of 20th-centur, many Highlights of bringht is performance sockule a world premiere for Housed Sachae is Select Schreibs stems, Dearn of Organs, discosed by Horry Links of English Naponal Opera. Registe Hall 275 Control Sacro 191305 2761961, Tongft, 7:30pm, tickets assauble at door

I THE CHANGING ROOM David Storey's facultaring play about a rugby stague team preparing for the weekly game. James Macdignald dreats the

Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836.5122) Mon-Set, 7.30pm. mata Press and Sal, 3pm & CHAPTER TWO, Tom Cont. and A. CHAPTER TWO, Tym Cont and Station Sets play two unstached New Yorkers winding towards each other. Nex Scroon cornedly Gleigaid, Stathectury Avenue, Wr 13171-494 5055: Now previoung, Spril, nats Thus, 3 pm and Sal. 5pm. Opens Feb 19, 7pm.

Gon, Sophe Thompson in an excelent saging of Sondherm's offersweet masses on manage, por and contra Domain Wiresbouse, Eartham Street, WC2 (017:-363 1722), Mon-Sal, 7 30pm, mass Wed and Sat, Spm. (§) M AN IDEAL HUSBAND Trumphers

ma An IDEAL MUSISAND Trumphar ratum for Press Half's production of Wade's drame of political cleaze and scanda! The star cast includes Mertin Shaw, Anna Carteret, Perma Downle. Theathe Royal, Haymarket, SWI 10171-930 8800; Wan-Sat, 7-45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm (§)

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polychologist (Hamlet Walter) in Stephen
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O DANGEROUS MINDS (15): Michelle Pleiffer brings hope to an inner-pity school. Predictable, rose-timed ireme; cirector, John N. Smeh MGM Chelses (0171-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (01426 91466) Serias Cottage (01426 914098) Was End (01426-915 574) UCt Whiteleys

• FATHER OF THE BRIDE PART II (PG). Stove Martin taces the petier of tiny feet Bland comedy sequel, with Diane Keston and Kimberty Williams

MGMs: Beiter Street (0171-935 9772) Chalses (0171-952 5088) Odeons: Kenshington (01426 514665) Lakeaster Sq (01426 915689) Marble Arch (01426 914501) Swiss Cottage (01426 914 098) UCI Whiteleys () (792 3332) THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET (15).

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can be created by applying tongue, lips, teeth and air to a mike's metal mesh. Fair's fair: they perform with marvellous physical agility to exploit it, I daresay I might have introduced passing cars, blazing guns and rocket ships, just because it is firm to play around with noises.

The trouble is, it does get pretty repetitive because the storyline is that Shane has a cricket friend called Andrew who is trodden on by David. Shane chases David to make him contribute 20 cents to a memorial, and the chase is the rest of the show. Chases along roads, in gyms, in strange

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exploration of the sounds that labyrinthine buildings, on the moon. There is often a daft, surrealist idea in these chases, such as the stegosaurus lurking behind a lunar rock which singlets. But their real names, to contain a beginning and an expertise, and if I'd thought of is seen in a sequence of Share Dundas and Dave Col. end It's what lies between that it first, and possessed the progressively larger and more threatening shapes. Observation is alert: I had foreotten the sounds a spaceman makes when breathing but it is recreated here: a regular coo-

But the very area they have made their own, reproducing non-verbal sound, limits them to the superficial. The ideal place for such a show as this, only an hour long, is as the interlude between meatier material.

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Wigan's shock fails to register on Richter scale of life

rose in the east this morning. The rain fell down, not up. The Earth continued on its course around the sun. Dinosaurs remained extinct, fire remained hot and ice cold; beer was still good. men and women continued to look on each other with favour, children continued to be born. Life, in

short carried on.
And yet it happened. Wigan really did lose a match in the rugby league Challenge Cup. No Cup final at Wembley, no lap of honour, no modest triumphalism in the post-match interviews. My father, Wigan-born, will not on April 27, be modestly accepting the obvious fact that it was all really

Wigan won the Cup last year; they always win the Cup. The last time they lost a Cup match was in

don't understand it. The sun February 1987 and, in the immorbest cricket team in the world. tal words of Sam Goldwyn, we have all passed a lot of water since

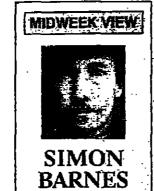
> Ah, 1987, when Margaret Thatcher and Mike Tyson were both unbeatable: both determined to go on and on and on and no one could see an end to either of them. Nelson Mandela was in prison and there was this curious wall right down the middle of Berlin. Both seemed certain to stay in place for our lifetimes: the prospect of change was not even to be considered. Terry Waite vanished and we never thought we would see him again.

Things change fast in the world. but, in sport, you get a revolution every season, because sport is real life on fast forward. For example, when Wigan lost their last Cup match. England had the second-

They had just beaten Australia in Australia to retain the Ashes under the captaincy of Mike Gatting Chris Broad topped the Test averages and England's strategy was based around spinners, Phil Edmonds and John Emburey.

In Oxford, there was a thing called the Boat Race Mutiny, which was supposed to be the end of the Boat Race as we knew it. Yet Oxford still won and did so for the next three years. Everton won the League: this

fact alone is enough to give every footballing person that dizzying sense of the pure vertigo that only the sporting timescale can im-plant. Coventry won the FA Cup, beating Tottenham in the final. Ian Rush was transferred to Juventus for the huge sum of £3.2 million; he was confidently expected to set the



Italian league on fire and catapault the Continent into a new era of respect for English football.

Pat Cash won Wimbledon and was going to rule tennis for the again. Martina Navratilova won the women's from Steffi Graf. Could anyone ever beat Martina? Next year Graf did the grand

Meanwhile, the people who really know about sport told us that the America's Cup was to be its next great global event. It would match Formula One for audience power and pure distilled seemess. the world by storm.

This was the year of the first rugby union World Cup, an event that seems to have been with us throughout all eternity. The rugby establishment here rather poohpoohed it. Huh. It will never catch on. New Zealand won it from France in the final. This was also

sion on which the touching innocence of the first was effortlessly lost. The long jump result was fiddled by the organisers and the only Briton to win gold was Fatima Whithread.

As for me, I was researching for my second book, about a year in the life of a a racing stable. Thus, I Peter de Savary — remember him? watched the horses with John — in a vulgar hogo of Bollinger. Durdop and charted his rise above and Havana, launched a new a sea of sorrows. A great man, challenge that was going to take — actually. Reference Point win the Derby in a thoroughly workmanlike way and the sporting year continued setting Gatting on his collision course with Shakoor

> Sport changes with lightning speed, champion succeeding un-beatable champion with bewildering inevitability, an endless chain

Rana.

the year of the second world of matchless heroes brusquely athletics championships, an occathe heights, each preparing the way for his own fall. Yet when exactly will the fall come? That, for the great ones - that, even for Wigan - is the only relevant question of sport.

England's rugby union wing Mike Harrison, said after receiving only two passes in a five nations' championship game (Rory Underwood on the other flank got none): "We had been ng a more expansive game." Not everything changes.

Indeed. Eight members of the Provisional IRA were shot dead in Northern Ireland, 32 people died in a Tamil massacre of Buddhist priests. The world has changed since 1987 and Wigan's last Cup defeat for nine years: but not enough alas, not enough.

Hill looks to spin doctors to smooth path to world title

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN ESTORIL, PORTUGAL

THE driving is one thing, the goals clear and uncomplicated. Damon Hill is the favourite for the Formula One drivers' world championship this season: Michael Schu-macher, Jacques Villeneuve and Jean Alesi are all there to be beaten. Image is another thing. Not everything, per-haps, but Hill is tackling it this year with a gusto born of deepseated frustration.

Amid the wreckage of last season, the critics leapt on his body language and a demeanour that often betrayed his despair, as much as they did his unfortunate tangles with Schumacher. Before the year was up, they had him neatly pigeon-holed as the whining successor to Nigel Mansell. the latest in a distinguished

line of whingers. It went around that his mechanics called him Mr Glum, Schumacher said that he was "moody", everybody said that they wished he would smile more. It all began to build up. The misconception pained Hill almost as championship. Now, he has hired some doctors of spin, not to try to kick over the traces, hide past misdemeanours or disguise basic character flaws. but simply to allow the real Damon Hill to stand up.

Last night, a few hours after he had driven the new Williams-Renault that should help to bring him the world title this year, Hill sat in a restaurant on the Atlantic coast north of Cascais as huge breakers battered the rocks outside and explained why he has gathered a whole team of back-seat drivers around him.

He has six people working for him, including an image analyst, a public relations

and a commercial manager to allow him to concentrate on grand prix racing, ease the growing burden of being a one-man business and stop him being misunderstood.

Those who know him even as a casual acquaintance see a man with a quiet but sharp sense of humour, a courteous man, unfailingly polite and cooperative and almost totally devoid of the rampant egotism that blights the characters of so many leading sportsmen. They see, too, a depth of thought and a breadth of interests that few of his rivals possess. Those who do not know him see something

You know what I am like and I do not think that comes across." he said. "That is something I want to happen. If I look very serious when I am at race meetings and I get upset when I have not done well, it is because I feel very passionately about what I do. because I have a burning desire to succeed.

trying to reinvent myself. I have not changed one bit. There is a great deal of desire



Hill: image-conscious

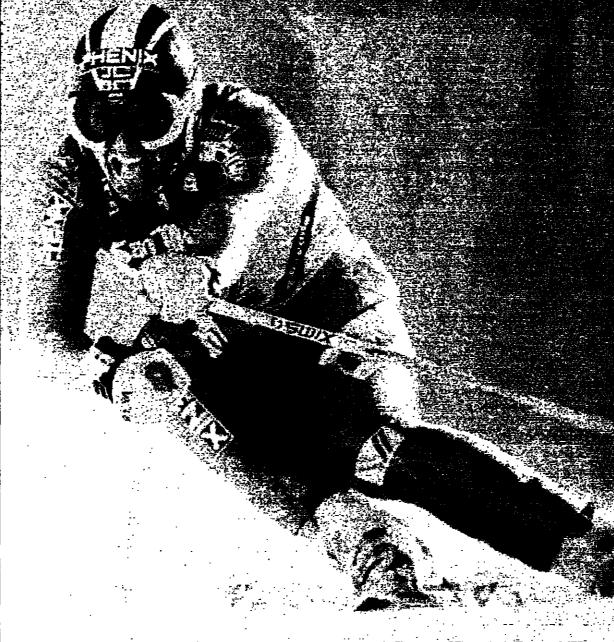
executive, a personal trainer from the people in the UK to see me do well and win the championship, and I would not be able to live with myself if I did not do everything I possibly could to give myself the best shot.

"That includes having the back-up, having the people to look after the off-track side of things. I have always been my own man, but I cannot do it all by myself now. A lot of drivers have management companies and that does not rest easily with me because I like to determine my own fate, but I do need help and support and that is what I have got now. I felt the need to address other parts of the job, like communicating what I do and what I am about. Most of all. I want to show that I am enjoying it. because I do enjoy it."

This season undoubtedly provides Hill with his best chance so far of claiming the drivers' championship that Graham, his late father, won twice. Schumacher is with a new team and doubts surround the reliability of Ferrari's new VIO engine: Alesi, at Benetton, may be a little too impetuous and Villeneuve, Hill's team-mate, will be negotiating his first season his successes

IndyCars. "I don't think I can approach it with the view that I will get another go if I do not win it this year," Hill said.
"That would not be the right way of thinking about it. I have got to win it now. I have to give it my best and you can boil that down to every race and to every lap. I have got to drive every lap better than the

If that happens, one suspects, the image will take care



Skaardal shows his determination while heading the field at Sierra Nevada. Photograph: Stefano Rellandini

Skaardal leads Scandinavian parade

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ATLE SKAARDAL, of Norway, spearheaded Scandinavian domination of the men's super giant slalom at the world skiing championships in Sierra Nevada, Spain, yesterday. Making his superior technique tell on the difficult early part of the course, he led a parade of skilers from Europe's more northerly outposts who filled five out of the

first six places. A silver medal-winner in the downhill at the 1993 world championships, Skaardai has recorded seven wins in World Cup super giant slalom events, including one this year. His victory, achieved in Imin 21.8sec, crowned a stuttering comeback from serious injuries sustained at Gar-

Kick-cff 7 30 unless stated * denotes all-ockel

Fourth round Bolton v Leeds (7.45)

Tennents Scottish Cup

Bell's Scotlish League Second division Safarg v Ayr

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland &-

coulcent notines Establish apparent vision: Leveste Unid v Bakanth CIS LEAGUE: Pist devision: Bognor Regis 3 asing tipe. Second division: Coller Ros. / Sameted UNISOND LEAGUE: Uniffila first devision Cup: Quantar-finat: Affection v Achton

Cupt Quarter-Strak Affector v Achton United F4 WASE Fifth round replay: Mangotoleid United v Westhoe Town (7.45) AVON BSURANCE COMBINATION: First classor: Index V Cherton (at Bury Stechnoris FC: Ludon v Bighton Norwich v Birtold Cay, Southampton v Crystal Palacolat Mantheodo, Wenteddon v Stendon (2.5) Handa v Tottenham (7.0) Postponed Oxfort United v Westhom Second Christon Velupon AFC v Chefsohom (7.45) Swansea v Cardill (2.0) Postponed Oxfort Velupon AFC v Chefsohom (7.45) Swansea v Cardill (2.0) Postponed Oxfort Velupon AFC v Chefsohom (7.45) Swansea v Cardill (2.0) Postponed Oxfort Shelbed Wechenday v Notis County at Rottenham FC (7.0). Transmire v Wowshampton (7.0) Second divelon: Surrivey v Matdesbrough (7.15) Fart v Parhetham (7.0) You'v v Baddesbrough (7.15) Fart V Alanchica Postponed Infor Cardill v Alanchica

Late SMCPNOFF IRESH LEAGUE: First division.

SALINGER HESH LEAGUE: FIRST CHARGO.
DESTREY V. CETTO.
FAI HARP LAGGER CUP. Second round
reading Cox. - Home Farm (2 30)
LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier
chisson Beosphiscal SYCOB v. Cerrition
Case Sa

Coca-Cola Cuo

FA Cup

Third division Cowdenbeath v Brechin -- misch in the run-up to the 1992 ished third in 1min 22.11sec. Olympic Games. Janne Leskinen, of Finland,

"I was very insecure when I took a look at the course this morning," Skaardal said. "I wasn't sure how to navigate it but I had a super feeling in the start house and went down without a mistake. I'm very happy. It's a great feeling. I'm going to have a three-course meal tonight with soup, spaghetti and lots of ice

The 2.425-metre course was fast and in near-perfect condition, with bright sun breaking through an hour before the race as dense fog lifted and a light snowfall stopped. Patrik Jaerbyn, of Sweden,

was second in Imin 22.09sec and Kjetil Aamodt, of Norway, the world champion in slalom and giant slalom, fin-

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di vision: Eastleigh v Thatcham, Peterslieid:

WRU MEDINERY LEAGUE: Pool 8: Nament v Dunvant (7:30): CLUB MATCH: Culord Univ v Oxford

OTHER SPORT

BASIKETBALL National Cup: Sem-finals, second legs: Snelfeld v Dystat Palace IB Gr London v Bantingham (6.0) BOUNG: European and Commonwealth featherworth champonether. Billy Handy (Sunderland, Incident v Michael Affos (Cruivley) (Crowfree Leisure Centre, Sundorland), BOWLS: Churchil Insurance world ingoor champonethers Presson!

TODAY'S FIXTURES

in fourth in Imin 22.37sec and Lasse Kjus, of Norway, in sixth with a time of imin 22.57sec, were split by the only

who was fifth in Imin Jaerbyn was the first to start in a field of more than 90. "I wasn't sure last night with new snow we had, but I think it was an advantage to start in front," he said.

non-Scandinavian in the top

six, Patrick Wirth, of Austria,

Aamodt was delighted at an apparent upturn in fortunes.
"I haven't done very well this
year, so if I can get a medal
I'm thrilled about it," he said. Many fancied skilers were left to rue their luck. Peter Runggaldier, of Italy, the reigning World Cup super

disappointment, as was Luc Alphand, of France, the world Cup downhill champion.

The super giant slalom was not held at the 1993 championships in Morioka, Japan, because of had weather, so Stefan Eberharter, of Austria. carried the burden of reigning champion from 1991 — and found it too much to bare, finishing well down on Skaardal

The distribution of medals excluded members of the strong Austrian and German teams, as had the women's super giant slalom on Mon-day. They have a two-day break to marshall their resources before the championships resume on Friday with the women's combined down-

Gamble on Norman fails to pay dividend

By COLIN MCOULLAN

(CL Lion Hearts, leaders of the Super Squash League, went down to their first defeat of the season this week when L calculated gamble went astray. They persuaded Ross Norman to come out of retirement to supplement their injury-stricken squad against for the match against Ogmore Valley Dragons at Maesteg, only for David Evans, ranked No 50 in the world, to beat the former world champion 3-1 in the third-string encounter. Norman, who retired eight

months ago at the age of 37, when still in the world's top ten, had been limited to social squash while concentrating on 🚁 building up his international

He started with astonishing assurance, taking the first game 15-10, but was then unable to counter the increasing front-court power of the 20-year-old Welsh champion, who recled in the match 15-4,

"We thought Ross might just frighten the youngster enough," John Milton, the ICL team manager, said. "He did play amazingly well for a man who had time for only one serious session of practice had twisted an ankle playing in the in German Bundesliga - but David needed more

respect than that." Craig van der Wath he South Africa No I, who bases his European season around the Welsh club, followed Evans's first win of the season with his own sixth victory in six Super League outings, beating Mark Chaloner, the England No 4, promoted to second string in Walker's ab-sence, 15-9, 10-15, 15-11, 15-12,

The league leaders needed the point gained by Del Harris, who beat Mark Cairns 13-15, 15-11, 15-10, 7-15, 15-7 in the first-string dead rubber match, to stay marginally ahead of Carmons Club, the

প্রত উল্লেখ্য শহরু

defending champions.
Cannons defeated Ellis Stockbrokers Lingfield 2-1 in Surrey, Tony Hands relin quishing an important sec ond-string point to Stepher Meads, who won 17-15, 15-7 13-15, 14-15, 15-10, but Pete Nicol, the British champion beat Rodney Eyles, the Austra han No l. in straight games a first string.

MORE COMPANIES GOT IT RIGHT IN THEY TOOK UP THE CHALLENGE! ENTER NOW FOR '96 FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND THE EVENT E G IN BROCHURE CALL OUR HOTLINE ON Mees Pierson 0171 436 3415 GOLF --- ASSOCIATE SPONSORS ---CITROËN --- TITLE SPONSOR ---**Mees Pierson** Martiott. Waterford GOLF

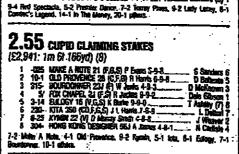
CRYSTAL

MERCHANT BANKERS SINCE 1720

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WORKER AMERICAN 4.00 DIXINGS NO 1 IN 96 HAMDICAP (\$5,305: 71) (12) vision: Eastigigh v Tretcham, Petersfield v Aeroshucharis UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Eastbourne Town, v Shoreham, Whetehamk v Wick. NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Wildenson Sword Trophy: Third round: Ecclestial v Brodsworth Mwr. Hall Rd Ludh, Worsbrough Bridge Mw v Seby WWNSTONLEAD NEW! LEAGUE: First division: Darbord v Crockenhall FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round: Hereford v Manchester Cay. 2.25 Red Speciacle. 2.55 Old Provence. 3.30 Shenango. 4.00 Lord Sky. 4.30 Mystic Tempo. 5.00 Monkey Zanty. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 SHENANGO (nap). division: Darkord v Crockenhal FA YOUTH CUP Fourth round: Hereford v Manchester Cay. SCHOOLS MATCHES (Not-off 20 unless stated). English Schools Puli Film Trophy: Quarter-finat: South East Sussex. + Hadiney (at Stamon FC. 7:30). Northern Counties of templorating: Smillinst: Chestine v Northumberland at Winstord. 7:0). Kent Cup: Beddy v Darkord (4:15). English Knowles Cup: Nortok. v Cambridgeshire (at Norwich Unled, 7:0). English Schools Senders under 19 Trophy: Franklin College (Batestiet). John Hampden Brigh Wycombel v Ning Albed's (Wartage, 2:19): Archbehop Grimshaw Brimmignam v Herebod SFC, Blactburn College v Werstaniey College (Migen at Darwan FC; Streebury School v Shoel SFC (2:15). Erft (Kent) v Fashirm College (Faroscher). English Goodyster under-16 Trophy: St Wirds High School (Merseysde) v Moorade NS (Greeter Northester). Si Francis Xarier (Mansyside) v Burnage HS (Greater Manchester). English girls' Virtio under-16 Trophy: William (Herseysde) v Burnage HS (Greater Manchester). English girls' Virtio under-16 Trophy: Williams (Herseysde) (Batester). Matthew Arnold (Burter) v Burngay High School (Suffelk 2:15). GDING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE 2.25 HEARTS AND ROSES APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£2,846: 1m 4t) (8 numers) 1 /6-0 HOROIC SON 16 (F.G.S) L Lloyd-James 8-10-0 2 1-61 PREMIER DANCE 26 (CD.F.S) D Haydn Jones 9-10-4 Montharley Hart (2) 8 3 000- Bi The MOMEY SE (CD.F.S) R Halfredmad 7-9-3 F Lynch (3) 8 4 34003 RED SPECTAGLE 13 (CD.F.S) P Haydn 4-8-11. If Rain 3 5 350- LADY LACEY 21 J (V.L.F.S.S) 6 Raining 9-8-7 Ionus Wanter (5) 2 6 03-4 TORREY PRES 170 (Y) M Fort 4-9-2 ... R Martins (5) 2 7 1-35 COMTECTS LEGEND 19 (CD.F.S.) J Reference 6-8-1 L Heyman 7 8 5-40 PATS DELIGHT 9 S Constant 4-7-11. Actuates Sanders (3) 1 4 Red Societade. 5-2 Presents Planer 2-3-1-11.

hill



Sourdonnes. 1	D-1 others.	<u> </u>			- 1860 (m)
3.30 (3-Y-0.£)	SWEET :	NOTHINES 11:79yd) (MAIDEN S	TAKES	``
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11-10 hassing	R. (-4 Sheer	BEANEY 21 A	Libricates & 3. S Star, 8-1 Hept	T & McL	venok 1 MgMa 2 Menood



1247 EEBRUARY 14 1996

Irish raider can confirm Champion Chase favouritism

Sound Man to hit right note

ON Saturday at Newbury Viking Flagship served notice that he is ready to defend his Champion Chase crown Today at Ascot the young pretender, Sound Man, attempts to confirm his position as favourite to take over the title. Sound Man has not run since impressively winning the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown in December and this trainer, Edward to is using today's contest to be using today's contest to be used to his eight-year-old his trainer, Edward O'Grady, for the Champion Chase

O'Grady said yesterday: #It hasn't been easy with the bad weather recently, but I can't grumble too much because it's been the same for everybody. Gample of However, the other han races more recently than races more recently than sound Man and they might have a fitness advantage.
"He won't be at concert bitch because Cheltenham is

Norman

dividend

- C. T. C.

○ to 00 Landed Gentry

30 Angelo's Double

30 Mole Board

00 Nemuro

ine target, but I certainly believe he will give a good account of himself."

With Storm Alert best over the main danger to wo miles, the main danger to wo mues, the main danger to be Irish raider should be oution, who reverts to his optimum trip after failing to tay in the King George.

The season winning all four farts, and it will be a major brorise if he is beaten. tarts, and it will be to the start while Sound Man will start while so while sound Man will start while sound Man will start while so whil

While Sound Man who other prohibitive odds, the other prohibitive races are more t prohibitive odds, the ones we televised races are more pen. The Shenley Enterprises furdle is fascinating, in spite f only six horses racing from the handicap proper.

Buckhouse Boy and Ange-Bucknouse poy an inform is Double are the inform orses, but are both 9lb out of the handicap and have yet to rove that they stay three

DING: GOOD TO SOFT (CHASE COURSE); SOFT (FURDLES)

.00 KILFANE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE

3,956: 2m 4) (21 / LYBRES)

1 6-0032 - LANGES GENTRY 26 (20.5) (8 bit 8 506 C street 7-11-13 - 6 Hoges 22 14431 - 50 HOFFER 226 (6.5) (8 bit 8 506 C street 7-11-13 - 6 Hoges 22 14431 - 50 HOFFER 226 (6.5) (6 Paciety 6 Bit 10 Paciety 7-11-12 3 S freeze 36 11-2155 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Gallet) 6 Bit 10 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Gallet) 6 Bit 10 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Gallet) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15 EXTENSION PROFILES 88 (F.G. (Galleti) 1 Galleti 1 Paciety 7-11-12 3 1-12-15

TITING: 5-1 So Riquelot, 6-1 Luciy Knight, Edwin Profiles, 8-1 Lunded Gentry, Baymayin, 12-1 Can Can artie, Lugo Bayringer, 14-1 others

J HOPEPUL best Sick Money 41 in 16-torner store hands at Stations (2m it 110pd, good).
TERIOR PROPELES 14th 5th of 13 to Justimes combined at Chilarte Com 4f 110pd, good to Broth Annual Station (2m it 13 to Justimes combined at Chilarte Com 4f 110pd, good to Broth (2m) and the course and delater (good). CD HAB-3 each 2nd of 20 to Stationom Lodge in condensate for the station of the Stationom Lodge in condensate for the station of the Stationom Lodge in condensate for the station of the Stationom Lodge in condensate for the station of the Stationom Lodge in condensate for the station of 19 in Annual Valley in stating advices hundred at the station of the station of 19 in Annual Valley in stating advices hundred at the station of the

.30 LEVY BOARD HURDLE (\$10,114; 2m 4h) (5 numers)

TTRIC: 2-1 Male Board, 5-2 Box Eight, 7-2 On So Resky, 9-2 Absolute's Early, 8-4 Leady Blue 1995: NO CORRESPONDING PAGE

11 211024 BORD BERHT 188F (8.5) (Besch & Partners) Miss V PRIBERS 18-11-7 H Denvenody (8)
12 2/310-75 DH SD 7855(7 39)(DD-FD) (th Se Riely Synd) D Besch 3-11-7 P Holley 30
13 25-3876 ABSALDM'S LADY 24 (C.S.S) (Wishcombe Manual D Besch 3-11-3 A P McCoy 44
4 4/3182 LLDCY RULE 11 (C.D.F.S.S) (Besch 3) H Thomas 9-11-3 A M A Program 5
5 2000-4F MOLE BOARD 11 (C.D.F.S.S) (W Sent) J Old 14-11-3 J Debume 50

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1 34182 PROBERLEY PLACE 27 (SF 6.5) (A Cressof N Friston-Dober 5-13-1 G Lisenbyn 7 2 350P-05 BALAAT 22 (F) (A Morn) M Chapter 6-13-1 W Worthington 6 0-64313 REPORT 33 (DF 6.5) (P Pent) Justines 5-13-1 W Worthington 6 0-64313 REPORT 33 (DF 6.5) (P Pent) Justines 5-13-1 A P Machines 7 11-1414 LORD DOPROET 25 (D.F.S) (1 Heads) Turkines 6-13-1 A P Machines 6 601605 MEMBRO 11 (F.S) (Burdon) P Elsentis 6-11-1 A Denientis 6 601605 MEMBRO 11 (F.S) (G Brooks) R Lee 8-11-4 A Magnise 8 602205 SUPPR COM 33 (F.S) (G Brooks) R Lee 8-11-4 A Magnise 8 60-6805 TAMBOTS DELIGINI 27 (F Fo) 0 Bisonth 5-11-4 P Holley

TRICE 9-4 Probertoy Place, 5-2 Seper Colo, 3-1 Nascero, 8-1 Lond Donal, 8-1 Frence, 25-1 Balant, Tango's

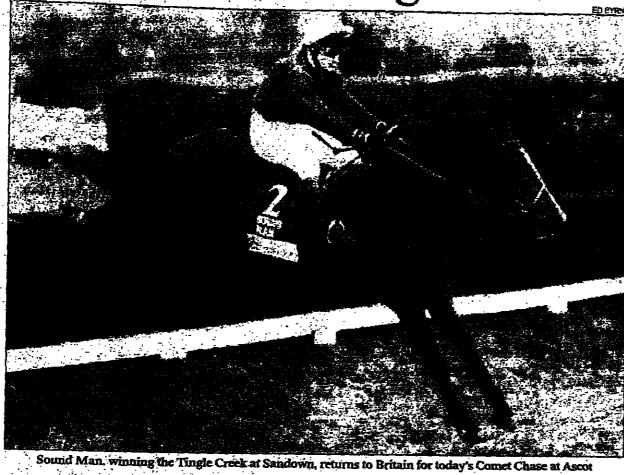
1996; DANCING PADDY 7-11-4 N Wallemann (3-1) K Cumungham-Brown 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

, vogo sempegan, 14-7 despis 1995: LANDED GENTRY 8-10-17 P Maddisch (8-1) C Broad 13 sac



dies after falling on his last two starts over fences, while Simpson, Seekin Cash, Bala-

sani and Top Spin have been below their best recently. Sound Man's stable companion, Time For A Run, has failed to take to fences this season, and will appreciate the

return to the smaller obsta-

3.05 Sound Man

3.35 Lord Gyllene

ne Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3:35 MR-MULLIGAM:

miles. The latter shapes as cles. He put up a tremendous though this trip will suit and is performance when third sure to go well.

Hebridean returns to hur Coral Cup at the Cheltenham Festival, and a repeat of that effort would give O'Grady and Dunwoody a valuable double.

The Reynoldstown Novices Chase has attracted a top quality field and will have a major bearing on the Sun Alliance Chase at the Festival St Mellion Fairway has been entered for the Gold Cup by

his trainer, David Nicholson, but his form amounts to little so far and, fine prospect though he is, he has much to prove. Ladbrokes' offer of 6-4

this morning is far too short. Mr. Mulligan is favourite in some lists for the Sun Alliance, and has impressed in two starts over fences. He must be respected, but has a 7lb penalty to overcome. He is preferred to Major Summit, who is also umbeaten over fences, but

jumped stickily at Sandown last time.

In the top races horses from smaller vards are often over priced, and that appears to be the case here. John O'Shea's Go Ballistic put up much his best effort when stepped up in trip over course and distance last time, being collared close home by Hill Of Tullow. Likely to be held up even longer today, Go Ballistic can

LINGFIELD PARK

1.45 Supreme Genotin. 2.20 Superior Risk. 2.50 Foots Errand. 3.20 Much Too High. 3.50 EL GRANDO (rap). 4.20 Mr Golightly. 4.50 Sutherland Moss. Carl Evans: 4.20 Mr Golightly.

SCING HEAVY

1.45 ORPRIGTON NOVICES HURDLE 24.015 2m 170yd, (15 runners)

124.015 2m 110yd, 115 numers)

126 ELBRI INFIDENMI 25 (87.5) 1 Casp 1-11-16

128 SARRASSAN (48 Wissens 2-13)

129 FREST GENESON (5 Part 6-13)

130 FREST BETARRES 5 Casa 6-13

140 LIND MEMBRADURH (11.5) J Santa 6-11-3

140 SARRASSAN (11.5) Memo 5-11-3

140 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 5-11-3

140 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 5-11-3

140 SARRASSAN (48.5) Memo 6-11-3

140 SARRASSAN (48.5) Memo 6-11-3

140 SARRASSAN (48.5) Memo 6-11-3

151 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 5-11-3

151 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

152 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

153 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

154 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

155 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

156 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

157 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

158 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

159 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo 6-11-3

150 SARRASSAN (11.6) Memo

2.20 SANDERSTEAD MAIDEN HURDLE

2.50 EXTED HOVICES CHASE

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSPORT FAMOR S ATTLACTS FROM \$1 remoters, 45.5%, D Natholisto, 5 flow, 13 138.5%, J Gull, 7 from 19 36.5%, A Tomest, 9 flow 25 32.1%. W Section-Glover, 4 flows 14 26.5%, D Edwards, 3 from 12, 25.0%, and COMPAS, D Britishedies, 10 earniers, from 36 mater, 27.6%, G Lagrange, 5 from 36, 25.0%, J P. Mannagoli, 7 from 34, 25.6%, R Greece, 4 from 30, 20.0%, D Septime, 5 from 36, 19.2%.

3.20 WARLINGHAM HANDICAP HURDLE (52,448 2m 3t 110yd) (16)

7-2 Cardio 9.2 Timera's Set 1-4 France Nactor, 9-1 Francisc Tot, Ideans Willer 19-1 October Wood (Auch Jac Forgh 18-1 Office)

3.50 THREE COUNTIES HANDICAP HURDLE

574	2m 116yd) (E)	IDLL	
3315	MORDANSK 32 (CDF St 18 Mathers 7-19-6)	E Ferton (3)	
4411	CAWARRA BOY 36 (U.S. C 15 to 6 11-12) HEAD FOR HEAVEN TI (S) R 454 5-11-2	, මේ දින්න මේක්රිත	
36 1	MENALES EF ID CI V has 4:10:12	D Soutzwater	2
	FASRIANA 27 Nazystan 6-10-3 EL GRANDO 006 (S) K Demonstran-tassan (; 10	. D Galesther : S G Hossen (3)	Ę
45-0	THUMBOOL 27 (G.S.) * Rose: 3-11-5	D 0.200	ç
an Circ	20, 41 resider 9-2 landary 5-1 Heat For	Il Marc Heaven, Sheare	

4.20 r e sassoon memorial hunters chase

[27] 221. 3(11): 11(1):

1. 235. CODE, AND EASY 341 (D.C.S.) J.D. dozer. 16-12-7 M. Felton (s): 77

2. 16-3. TOPPINS TRU 11: (D.F. C.S.) I. Neuton-Dover. 11-12-7 M. Remel (s): 80

2. 46-8. R.G. DANISE 227 (F.S.) R.D. Bozer. 9-12-9 M. Barten, (s): 52

3. 53-4. CHARDEN 227 (G.S.) R.D. Bozer. 9-12-9 M. Barten, (s): 52

5. 53-4. CHARDEN 227 (G.S.) R.D. S. Mahon, 19-12-9 E. Barty (s): 90

5. 63-1. C. A.B. KANS (A.C. M. F. C.S.) M. Toronico, 19-12-6 C. Radding (s): 1-14-14 C. C. M. B. M. M. S. Sel Count for IBB Class Mail 5-1 to Collegion C-1 Holland House 7-1 Co For Fig. 16-1 Dool And Bary 12-1 others

4.50 LEVY BOARD INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL

HUA	ΠFL	AT RACE (21,553: 2m 110yd) (20)
1	221	SUTHERLAND MOSS 23 (S) It follows on 5-11-9 R Massey (5)
÷		BACAS OF THE BRIDE Mr. B Haras 6-11-2 E EVINE
- 2	0-	
4		CULBERLAND YOUTH MAN C Carde 5-11-2 . Lawrence
- 5		GUANES JOHN R HEAT 1-17-7 B Fersion (3)
€	5	MARICUEIGH MAN 40 PHON 6-1; / Maray (7)
7		LETRIM COTTAGE 1 Circle 1-11-2 . S Land (7)
5		LBULLETTOR R From 5-11-2 D Q Sulfrom
3		MY MICKY / Bands 5-11-2 . A forv
7Ú	0	MYSTIC MARCH 27 2 2 Store 5-17 2 S Burraum
11	-	PADREAD 6 De rican 5-11-2 REDI-RUBBLER
1.2	Q	ROYAL HAND 62 to Wathern 6-11-2 Mr J College (7)
13	34	THE PROBES 23 N Temper Lane 5-11-2 . T Justice
14	o.	TUS YOUR FORELOCK 27 S I Haugham 5-11 2 Mass E J Honey and
15		MATHER LOCAL M. F. St. S. 10-11
15		ALTERY THE LICH ! Sente 4-10-6 G Hopen (3)
17		SPLENDED THYME 4 Hose 4 10-6
78		AUST JESTINE VIELED 4-10-1 R Green
15		TEMPERATURE RISING M For 4 10-1 D Endougler
35		THE FOR 4 WALTE IN Colorandos 4-10-1 Mr P Clarce

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER 35 Cumbrian Rha

1.35 Cumbrian Rhapsody. 2.10 Keen To The Last. 2.40 Once More For Luck. 3.10 Go Silly. 3.40 Solba.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES

1.35 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2.637: 2m 11 110yd) (13 runners)

2.10 WOLSINGHAM MAIDEN HURDLE

2.40 NORTH EAST RACING CLUB HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,882 2m 11 110yd) (10)

*** TUPE (** 1.2 *** 1.2 *** 1.3 *** 1

3.10 BET WITH THE TOTE HOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: \$4.023; 3m 3l) (12)

2-1 Le Detector, 4-1 Call The Shots, 7-1 Annuhal, Palm Count, 8-1 Co Silly The Gallopolington, 16-1 others

3.40 ST EDMUNDS HOVICES CHASE

ĮĮJ,2		201 20) (12)	
1	5-03	OVERWHELM 15 (G) V Thompson 8-11-11	D Williams
2	740	CALLERNOY 11 (5) D Lamb 6-11-4 A	Manners C
3		CARDONERY J Hollers 8-11-4	. I Res
4	-155	DEVELRY 41 (G,S) 6 Morare 6-11-4	.I Calladia
5	0P56	EXCUSE MAN 21 (G) F Walton 8-11-4	Mr A Rober
6	FP5P	LEADER SAL 99 J Wate 7-11-4	K Jan
7	FIFU	MONY-SKIP 25 Mrs S Smith 7-11-4	R Gue
6	2372	MELTEGRATY 13 (S) Mays P She 7-11-4	R Mark
9	4450	NELTEGRATY 13 (S) May P Sty 7-11-4 . NOTABLE EXCEPTION 41 (F.G.S) May M Pendley 7-	11.4 P N
18	5-24	DMESEVENIFOLIA 90 (BF) G Rechards 7-11-4	A Death
11	55P0	RANDOM KING 25 J Wade 6-11-4	F Perc
12	5-04	RISKY DEE 119 (F,E) V Thompson 7-11-4	Ni Rooth
13	20-	SHARP PENN 396 H Oliver 7-11-4	Jacon Oliv
14	8232	SQLBA 16 (G,S) C Parter 7-11-4	B Since
15	P-0	RUALMIT 11 T Tale 7-10-13	A Ganti
7.7 D		King, 9-2 Soiba, 5-1 Melagrity, 6-1 Denley, 8-1	
~ 1	e Canal	hang 5-2 South, 3-1 menegray, 6-1 yertary, 6-1	une eveny

4.1N "

CHASE (£4,120: 2m 1f) (8) 7-4 Super Trucker, 4-1 Precipies Plun. Beldine, 9-2 Tresidder. 7-1 Karudahil, 16-1 Port in A Storm, 16-1 other:

4.40 SEDGEFIELD MAIDEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,800: 2m 11 110yd) (14)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

2-1 Ferrets, 7-2 Red Warror, 5-1 Commutae, Broten, 10-1 Rule Out The Rest, 12-1 Caristie Bandito's, 16-1 others

TRABERS, H Oliver 4 worders from 6 numers, 86.7%, M Revoley, 70 from 236, 29.7%, D Eddy, 4 from 14, 28.6%, T Tate, 5 from 18, 27.8%, L Lunga, 9 from 41, 22.0%, J O Hell, 12 from 58, 20.7% JOCKEYS Jacque Oliver, 6 from 11, 54.5%; P. Neven, 62 from 185, 33.5%; G. Lee, 9 from 22, 33.1%; B. Grattan, 3 from 13, 23.1%; M. Dwyer, 28 from 130, 21.5%; L. Wyer, 25 from 117, 21.4%;

and the section

gagery of the

. . . .

JAMES CAPEL NOVICES CHASE (£10,163; 2m) (7 numers)

HERREY PLACE 1'N1 2nd of 18 to Staining it in notice chase at Ludion (2m 4, good).

ART 101 5th of 8 in Chief Raider in notice 2m 4 Martel Rasen (2m 4, good in 111 2nd of 6 to Cartalah). Strong in Lightning Montes Chase over course and distance. Start last Morning in May 3Nd in 14-names the chief of the Course and distance. See thick of Caltrick (2m, good). MEMBER 10 18 18 to 40 14 in Carmburgh in notices the chief of the Research, beat Tyring Again 5 in 13
Selection: SLPER COM .30 SHEWLEY ENTERPRISES HURDLE

ritled handicap. £8,598; 3m) (14 runners).

1 Rendicare Gillen Cove 10-2, leteral Joyel 10-1, Progedo 9-9, Bueldecum Roy 9-9, Angelo's Double 9-9, a Sci 9-6, Brindley House 7-7, Spr Dars 7-8. w out 9-th, Brindley House 7-7, Spot Cars 7-8.

-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1 Hebridian, 7-1 Shopson, Augsto's Double, 40-4

-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1 Hebridian, 7-1 Shopson, Augsto's Double, 40-4

-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1 Hebridian, 7-1 Shopson, Augsto's Double, 40-4

-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1

-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1

-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1

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-BIG: 3-1 Bendenance Box, 9-2 Time for A Rom 5-1

-BIG: 3-1

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BETTING: 4-5 Sound Man, 3-1 Condice, 7-2 Spore Alest, 6-1 Easy Buck, 66-1 Sprokeson Boy

1995: MARTINA'S SON 8-11-7 R Factor (Bress law) T Forsion 6 can FORM FOCUS

COULTON best offert bis sesses, but Aretain |
Stogue Tingle Creek Ches at Sandown (2n.
Express 61 in 3-course grade # Deserf Orabid Handcap Class at Windowski of Class 1, Broth,
Self-SYBUCK completed tooks but Elizar distance
in 5-course templetap charse at Haydood, (2m 4,
solf) SCINNO MANN completed for-Broth but Class (3)
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3.35 REYNOLDSTOWN NOVICES CHASE (Grade II; £15,850: 3m 110yd) (10 runners)

Elit 113,63U. Stiff 110/93 (10 FUNRIES)
F-1111 MAT MALLISAN 34 (D.F.E.S) (M Whomshir) N Chance 8-11-12 R Johnson (2)
334-111 MATOR SUMMIT 39 (G.S) (X Webin) J Göred 7-11-9 P Hote 92
334-111 MATOR SUMMIT 39 (G.S) (X Webin) J Göred 7-11-9 P Hote 93
332-117 ST MELLION FARRWAY 22 (D.G.S) (S Medium Existed D Microbson 7-11-9 A Magniss 88
1426/22 BORD JAPT 37 (B.F.S.S) P Married P Medical 7-11-5 MATOR 37
1496-72 GO RALLISTIC 32 (G.S) (Mr. 8 Lockwoll J O'Sheo 7-11-5 MATOR 39
125212 LOPO GYLLEME 32 (S Carte) S Brookchain 8-11-5 MATOR 39
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 W Married 94
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 MATOR 30
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 MATOR 30
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 MATOR 30
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 MATOR 30
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 MATOR 30
165-1211 MATTHER (AD 25 (G.S) (M Sem) Mr. 3 Phase 7-11-5 MR. 3 Smån 55
1731 UBU VAL 21 (D.F.G.S) (W Bernell) W Berkell 10-11-6 A S Smån 65

A 3 annum 65 BETTONS: 5-2 St McBon Folmon, 3-1 bir Mulligan, 9-2 Mayor Suzanst Nahlban Lad. 18-1 Go Belfrasc. 12-1 Lord Cyflone, Ulbu Vol. 16-1 othors 1995: SWEET DUKE 8-11-9 T Jents (100-30 tes) N Turision-Denies 10 rap

MR MULLIGAN completed tour-time, heal Call II 10yd, good to soft) 60 BALLISTIC 46 2nd of 9 A Pay 151 in 8-simon goods 8 Towton Nonces Class at Wellheby (2th 110yd, good to soft) with BBU VAL (7th better off of 3th MAURIS SUMMET completed hebbs, beal 5th Honey 21 in 13-mass movins class at Sandown (2th 41 10yd, good to soft). CORD soft in the pay 21 in 13-mass movins class at Sandown (2th 41 10yd, good to soft). ST MELLION FARWAY completed (noble, beat Highbard Jack 116) in 9-sames movins observed 41 Judgeled (fam, soft), BORD JAR 207, 201 of 8 to Call II A Day in novice chase at Chepstow (2th 31 Sefection; MR MILLIGAN (nap)

4.05 FERNBANK MOVICES HURDLE (£3,956, 2m 110yd) (12 runners) DEPLOYERS OF Princetor Recingl C Mann 5-11-4 ... J Raffors 71
1642 SUSTER BOR 22 (G) (R & Frincisins) Mrs. J Phrome 6-11-4 ... W Marston 86
19-33-91. DARS 23 (G) (R Long J Jenstes 7-11-4 ... A Magains 93
6-221. RARDONA C 2 (G) (R & A Magains) A Reviset 6-11-4 ... P. Capterry B.
PD-21 MARDONA C 2 (G) (R & A Magains) A Magains 5-11-4 ... S Ryan (7) 95
(P) TROY'S OREAM 66 (F. Hearwise) Mrs. S South 5-11-4 ... R Williamson (7) 61
689-00 TIKANO 4 (Mrs. 1 McCoubrey) J Jenkess 5-11-4 ... R Williamson (7) 65
(R MARDONA C 2 (R William) Mr Organia 5-10-13 ... W Worthington 85
REGAL PURSUIT 2427 I. Tracey) R Hespiress 5-10-13 ... M A Rizgistati
- 35- SIGHTYN SOUND 2886 (the South South 6-10-8) ... J Osborne
MATAMERIAS 5-11-1326 (R South-Rosey) G Sharwood 4-10-8 ... J Osborne
MATAMERIAS 1887 (A harwood 8 Pathers) 6 Harvood 4-10-8 ... R Dansenod —

BETTRICE: 7-2 (Suppless OI, Studge, 4-1 Managen), 5-1 Chain, 7-1 Abbey Street, 8-1 Regal Pussel, Materianous 10-7 Bester Both, 12-1 others. TESS: SUPPEME MASTER 5-11-4 A P McCoy (6-1) Mess C Johnsey 12 cm FORM FOCUS

BUSTER BOB 111 2nd to inspicate in novice hardle at Lingsleid (2m 110yd, heavy). at Licensias (2m, carl) DJAIS heat Flying Gunner 55 in novice hardle at Winspick (2m 491 good). KINS-DOM OF SHADES hear MEROSSWAND THE a maid-

4.35 ASCOT STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£2,852: 2m 110yd) (25 runners)

271 11(940) (25 IMPRESS)

ADMERAL BRUNY (Bits & Morns-Admiss) N Gaseler 5-11-3 ... F Cooper (7)
ADMERAL Y ARCER (Singline Revining Ltd) A Forter 5-11-3 ... F Domission S LOWIN WARD (6 Showed-Revining Ltd) A Forter 5-11-3 ... F Domission S LOWIN WARD (6 Showed-Revining College 5-11-3 ... F ARCERTY S Registrer CALL ME RINDY (at Barbow) No. 1 Morie 6-11-3 ... I Hanny CHECKS AND STYPPES (D Nom) C Whitchin 5-11-3 ... I Hanny CHECKS AND STYPPES (D Nom) C Whitchin 5-11-3 ... I Hanny CHECKS AND STYPPES (D Nom) C Whitchin 5-11-3 ... I Hanny CHECKS AND STYPPES (D Nom) C Whitchin 5-11-3 ... I Hanny CHECKS AND STYPPES (Barbard Brund) D Witchin S-11-3 ... A Magnetic EDGEMOUR PARTICE (Racing Harns) P Habbs 5-11-3 ... Gay Lowis (3)
KAREA'S TYPPOOR (Sir Horse Power) P Habbs 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (Padrino Partness) B De Hasa 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (Padrino Partness) B De Hasa 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (Padrino Partness) B De Hasa 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (Padrino Partness) B De Hasa 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (Padrino Patrness) B De Hasa 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (Padrino Patrness) M Headers 1-15-3 ... Miles (L Backlord RATMERAL (S Jacobrany Racing) M Headers 1-15-5 5-11-3 ... M McCoy CHEMES, Man A Tigoto D: C Jones 5-11-3 ... A P McCoy PADNIND (A Welley) J Britter 5-11-3 ... Mar R. Lawrine WISE RORG (J Okt) J Okt 6-11-3 ... P Hote STAPELY (The Mary Patrness) J Pasine 4-10-7 ... A Thoriston PADNIN (J Warry Patrness) J Pasine 4-10-7 ... A Bades (S) A Extraction College 4-10-7 ... A Bades (S) A STAPELY S OLDEST (T Jones 4-10-7 ... B Powell PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ... C Libroblyn PREISE (Chemede Stod) N Freston-Lowie 4-10-7 ..

SETTING: 4-1 Printed Remark, 5-1 Storm Wind, Brandey May, 16-1 Datroit Clary, Royal Rown, 14-1 others. 1995; RED BLAZER 4-10-7 J Osborne (13-2) Mrcs H Knight 25 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS JOCKEYS 25.5 C Mande 23.3 J Osborne 23.1 A P McCoy 21.8 T Jenks 21.4 A Maguise 7 21 33.3 32 120 26.7 10 40 25.8 3 12 25.0 17 90 18.9

Mark Perrett, the jockey, has retired after a 17-year career in which he rode 370 winners over jumps and 17 on the Flat. His big wins included Balasani in the Ascot Stakes and Saxon Farm in the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham.

Swinburn continues to recover

DOCTORS treating Walter Swinburn after his fall at Sha Tin on Sunday warned yesterday against overoptimism in assessing the jockey's condition. Swinburn, 34, is conscious but suffering severe breathing problems, a fluid build-up in the lungs and multiple fractures. His father, Wally, who flew

io Hong Kong an Manday was quoted as saying Walter could be back in the saddle within months. But Dr Tom Buckley, in charge of the intensive care unit at the Prince of Wales Hospital where Swinburn is being treated, said: "He has had a severe trauma, with multiple fractures, bruised lungs and

severe head injury. "His principal problems re-late to the head and chest. Patients with this kind of trauma can be very stable but can then suddenly deteriorate. He is quite stable at the moment, and we are guardedly optimistic."

Swinburn's agent, Graham Green, had more positive news. "According to his father, who saw him today, Walter has improved," he said. "The doctors are taking him off the ventilator and cutting back on his sedation." Nonetheless, Swinburn will remain in intensive care for several more days.

1 -U13 1.5 DETECTOR 29 (F.5) C Parter 6-11-10 D Parter 2 3-41 CALL THE EXOTS 21 (CD.P.) Water 7-11-3 K Jones 3 D443 AVOWHAT 4 J J D1e3l 6-10-10 R McGrath

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Kelso Going: soft heavy in places 1.40 (2m 8f 110)rd hotel 1. Santa Concerto (7 Reed, 4-7 fav. Thunderer's nap), 2. Under Keeny (7-1); 3. Rachau's Deven (25-1). 19 ran 15t dist £ Lungo Toter £1 80. £1 10. £2 50. £3.50. DF £3.40. Tro: £14 60. CSF. £6 69

2.10 (3m 11ch) 1, Parsons Boy (A Dobbin 13-8 iso), 2, Caregilou II (25-1), 3, Vulpin De Laugere (10-1), 13 can 2, 11 G Richards Tota E2-90, E2-10, E20 10, C3-40 DF, C112-90, Tho, E291-30 (part worr pool of E45.15 careed toward to 2.30 at Ascot Ioday) CSF £40.78 2-40 (2m 110)rd holes 1, Palsongate King (B Harding, 9-4 (sw); 2, Chee Minister (5-2); 3, Cogu Lans (13-2) 5 ran Hd. Vi A Whitains Tole: \$3.50; \$1.40; \$1.70 DF \$5.90 CSF: £7.72 23 80 USF: £7 72 3.10 (2m 21 hds) 1. Direct Route (P Carbern, Evens lank, 2. Supreme Sonet (7-2), 3. Whateldyousay (5-1), 10 ran -1, 11 J. Johnson Tote, £1 80, £1 20, £1 50 £1 40 DF £3.50, Tion £7 20 CSF £5 01. Totast £11 07

Incast ETI UP 3-40 (Sm fi ch) 1. Abercromby Chief (P Carberry, 9-2): 2. Cellide Boy (8-1), 3. Prins Gurner (14-1), Uron V 9-4 Isv 9 ren, NR Emerald Storm, 15/, 6/ J. Johnson Tols: 64.80, 6: 10, 52-70, 62-00 DF 524.20, Ton: 634.10 CSF 527 41 Tricast-5427.44.

£427.44.
4.10 Rm 110xd holle) 1. Chipped Out (R Gently, 4-1); 2. Colorful Ambilion (12-1). 2. Crystal Git (7-1) Bathemoch 11-4 ji-fav. 18 ran MR Enchanted Cottage. 18. 25/ M Todhunter Tore: £620. £150. £5.20. £3.80. DF: £50.10. Trac: £137.70 CSF £53.46. 23.46.
4.40 (2m 21 nde) 1. Stash The Cash (A
Dobbin, 9-4 (1-tav. Private Handicapper's
lop rating): 2. Aragon Avr (9-4 (1-tav); 3.
Sansool (11-4). 6 ran. 11, 201. T Dyer Total
23 (0: £1 70, £2 00. DF; £2 10 CSF-£7 83.

Jackpot: \$6,760.40. Lingfield Park

Cling Herid Park
Going: standard
1,50 (zm 1, Shentif ID Harrison, 100-30):
2, Gueti Alkance (6-1): 3, Namasia (8-1)
Al The Joys 2-1 fav. 9 ran: 71, 1%1 J Hais
Tohr: 2280; 2170; 21:30: 23:30. DF
£10.90. Tind: £27.80. CSF £21 45. Tricast
£129.96.
220 (1m) 1, Mr Teigh (R Cochrane: 9-4
kavi: 2, Manaber (7-2): 3, Apotto Red
112-11. 8 ran 3, Ws 8 Smart. Tole: £250.
£11.0: £1.60, £2.70. DF: £7.30. CSF

2.50 (fm 2f) 1 Multi Franchise (J Cumn, 4-1) 2. Routendoons Charm (5-6 tay); 3, Orderted (5-1) 5 ran 34, 2-1 B Gubby fate (5-5) 51.25, 64 (0 DF 52.00 CSF 57.38 3.20 (fm 2% 1 Rainbow Top (R Cochrane, 8-13 (av), 2 Quality (14-1); 3,

Easy Choice (9-1) 7 ran 51 51 W Haggas Toto: \$1 60 81 90 \$4 20 DF: \$4.90 CSF 5.50 (8): 1 Dummer Golf Time (Tilvics, 1-4 tax); 2 General Fasien (9-2); 3, Cindy Kate 150-11, 5 ran, 5h hid his Lond Humingdon, Tote, £1 20, £1,00 £2 10 DF £1 50 CSF £2 16

4.20 (2m) 1, Sir Thomas Beecham (A Dah, 16-1) 2 Rhinza (5-2 lan) 3, Call Me Alta (3-1) 5 ran ---, 6, 5 Dow, Tote, 519 40; 250, 51 49, 61 30 DF 512.00, CSF 551 30 Tricks; 5138 50 4.50 (6) 1, Robo Magic (5 Sanders 9-2); 2, Sharp Imp (10-1); 3 Defivish (8-1) Spender (1-4 tav 9 ran (1-1) 1-4); McMagaye Hair Core, 27-50 (21-7); 02-60, 64-00 DF (29-6) They (110-8) CSF: 943-90 Tricast, 6319-05

HICHARD EVANS Nap: ANGELO'S DOUBLE

Placepot £13.30. Quadpot £2.80.

(2.30 Ascot) Next best: Thuhool (3.50 Lingfield Park)

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W'HAMPTON 104 204 3M

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FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking \$40 or more using Switch or Delta bank or building society debit cards. RING TODAY-BET TODAY 0800 44 40 40 Free pocket sports binoculars will

be sent within 7 to 18 days of your first bet being placed. REYNOLDSTOWN NOVICES' CHASE 3 miles, Ascot 3.35pm, Live on BBC TV.

5/2 St. Mellion Fairway 3/1 Mr Mulligan 3/1 Nahthen Lad 9/2 Major Summit 12/1 Go Ballistic 16/1 Ubu Val 20/1 Lord Gyllene 20/1 Tothewoods

33/1 Bond Inr 50/1 Peatswood Each way One Fifth the odds a place 1, 2, 3. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 3.20pm, Tartersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner - no ber LATEST ODDS ON William Hill TV TEXT

* Teletext on CH4 P601/602/603



Reprimand for Rioch on eve of big match

THESE are interesting times for Bruce Rioch. Yesterday, he was warned as to his future conduct by the Football Association: this evening, Aston Villa stand between him and a visit to Wembley in his first season as Arsenal manager. The connection between the

two events is a strong one -the Coca-Cola Cup. Rioch had a heated disagreement on the touchline with Terry McDermott, the Newcastle United assistant manager, in a pass-ionate match that took Arsenal to to a semi-final meeting with Villa, with the first leg at Highbury tonight. Rioch was censured and warned that a repeat would bring a stronger

response.
Even with a visit to Wembley and entry to Europe as the prize, quite why a secondstring competition should evoke such passions is difficult to fathom, particularly for Rioch. As a manager he is known more for his insistence on discipline than for confrontation, but the pressures of life at Highbury have been emerging recently with the signing

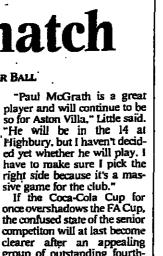
Steve Claridge, the Birmingham City striker, Andrews after a breakdown in talks over a new threeyear contract yesterday. The 29-year-old, who was Bir-mingham's leading scorer with 25 goals last season, has attracted the interest of a string of clubs, including Chelsea, Charlton Athletic and Leicester City. Claridge cost Birmingham E350.000 when he joined from Cambridge United in January

of David Platt under scrutiny and a run of only four wins in their past 14 games. A return to the Coca-Cola Cup final, inwhich his Bolton Wanderers side played last year with a style they have lacked since of those pressures.

Rioch said yesterday: "We have to make sure we can take a good advantage with us when we travel to Villa park in two weeks' time."

Arsenal will again be without Adams, Platt and Parlour and Rioch is hoping that Bergkamp, the Holland international forward, will provide the inspiration. "Every successful team needs players of instinctive ability that can turn a game," Rioch said. The only thing Dutch about their win against Newcastle was the use of the clog, but that may be less effective against Villa.

"They are a very strong side defensively," Bergkamp said. So strong that Brian Little, the Villa manager, was still undecided yesterday whether to bring back Paul McGrath tonight. McGrath missed the win at Bolton on Saturday, Steve Staunton performing impressively on the left side of three centre backs in his



once overshadows the FA Cup, the confused state of the senior competiton will at last become clearer after an appealing group of outstanding fourthround matches tonight; both the Cup-holders, Everton, and West Ham United are at risk against teams from the Endsleigh Insurance League in their replays.
Everton travel to Port Vale

with serious doubts about the fitness of Duncan Ferguson, who strained his groin in the win on Saturday over Manchester City. Ferguson posed the main problem to Port Vale in the original game at Goodison Park and his absence could help to tilt the game in Port Vale's favour.

If Ferguson does miss the match, Daniel Amokachi will deputise. There are doubts. too, about Joe Parkinson, but Ebbrell is available after a two-match suspension and Andrei Kanchelskis returns after playing for Russia in

West Ham won much admiration as well as three points at Tottenham Hotspur on Monday; playing at Grimsby Town 48 hours later will be a different proposition, particularly with Dani and Bilic ineligible — always assuming that the internal strife on Saturday has not undermined Grimsby's challenge.

Leeds United, who are already ahead at the halfway stage in their Coca-Cola Cun semi-final, tonight turn their attention to the FA Cup, when their twice-postponed tie with Bolton takes place. With Ford passing a fitness test but Pemberton and Jobson still missing, Leeds are likely to be counter-attacked so well at St Andrew's on Sunday. Bolton know that this game is their last chance to rescue something from a depressing

That is also true for Coventry City and Manchester City - at least until Sunday, when the winners of the replay at Maine Road visit Old Trafford. "I'd sooner be where we are in the League and still in the Cup than be halfway up the Premiership and out of the Cup." Alan Ball, the Manchester City manager, said yesterday. ☐ Birmingham City appear

closer to being made to play a game behind closed doors with the Football Association indicating its attitude was hardening to the throwing of coins and a snooker ball on to the pitch during the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final, first leg defeat by Leeds United on Sunday. The Leeds captain, Gary McAllister, was struck by a



West Ham indebted to foreign legion

WEST Ham United's third successive FA Carling Premiership victory — 1-0 against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane on Monday - should have banished any lingering fears of rele-gation at Upton Park. Now in thirteenth place, eight points clear of the drop zone, it would take a serious reversal of fortune for them to be dragged back into the mire.

However, for Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, it was still a night of mixed emotions. Dani, the Portuguese forward, and Slaven Bilic, the Croatian central defender, made their full debuts in claret and blue and responded with polished performances in an alien environment. while Ilie Dumitrescu, the Romanian, remains entangled in the tentacles of

the Department of Employment. Dani, 19, scored the winning goal after only four minutes, nodding in from close range after Ian Walker, the Tottenham goalkeeper, had parried a shot from Dicks almost straight on to the striker's head. "The pitch was not good, it was very tiring," Dani, who

Russell Kempson on the new faces helping Harry

Redknapp's team towards Premiership safety

was replaced by Tony Cottee in the 67th minute, said. "I am not used to that sort of surface but the team worked hard and I enjoyed it."

Bilic, playing his first game for two months, slotted in alongside Marc Rieper at the heart of the West Ham defence. "We passed the ball beautifully but maybe we should score more goals," Bilic, a £1.65 million signing from Karlsrühe, in Germany, said. "It was very quick, very competitive, something which surprised me, but I think I coped okay."

Yet it was the absence Dumitrescu, another of West Ham's recent influx of foreign players, that cast a shadow over Redknapp's contentment. As if mocking the Departent's decision to refuse him a work permit, after his £1.5 million move from White Hart Lane, the match programme still had him listed

at No 8 in the Tottenham squad. We can bring in any mug who doesn't with 52 international caps," Redknapp said. "Because he didn't fit into Tottenham's side, it doesn't mean he can't fit into mine." West Ham have launched a vigorous appeal against the decision, the result of which is likely to be announced early next

Though Tottenham also played vibrant role in a match of numerous goal attempts and retained fifth place in the Premiership, their third defeat in six league outings again questioned their ability to qualify for next season's Ucfa Cup.

We were disappointing in the first half but I thought we came back well after the break." Gerry Francis, the manager, said. Equally worrying was the failure of Teddy Sheringham and At the County Ground, Martin Ling

helped to ease the jumbled FA Cupfixture list when his last-minute goal gave Swindon Town a 1-0 victory over Oldham Athletic in their much-delayed fourth-round tie. Ling had been on the pitch only 12 minutes as a replacement for Steve McMahon, the Swindon player-manager, who had dropped him before the game.

Had Oldham shown a more adventurous approach, Graeme Sharp, the manager, might have been contemplating a fifth-round place instead of McMahon, his former Everton colleague. "It's no consolation to lose to an old mate." Sharp said. "Steve did a good job, sitting in midfield and using all his experience. I didn't think Swindon hurt us that much, but. perhaps we didn't do enough going forward." Swindon, the Endsleigh Insurance League second division leaders, also missed a penalty in the

Sorensen happy to sign new. contract

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

KURT SORENSEN has been confirmed as the Workington coach for the inaugural season of rugby league's Super League. Workington, who have debts approaching £1 million, were last week taken over by Bob Jamieson, a Scotland-based sports market-

ing consultant. The takeover delayed nego tiations with Sorensen, who has now signed a new, oneyear deal. "I'm pleased that my future has been decided," Sorensen, a former New Zea-land international, said. "Now, we have just seven weeks to prepare for the start of Super League and I shall be reviewing the playing staff with Mr Jamieson to see what we have and whether we can

make any more signings." Sorensen, who enjoyed a successful playing career with Widnes, had a spell as player-coach with Whitehaven before taking over at Derwent Park from Peter Walsh at the start of the shortened centenary season. However, Workington had a disappointing time in their second season back in the top division, finishing bottom, with just four wins from 20 matches, as well as being beaten by Widnes, from the first division, in the Regal Trophy and Silk Cut Chall

"It's my impression that any coach in the game would have struggled at Workington last season," Jamieson said.

Stuart Spruce, 25, the Widnes full back who has not months, is ready to return in the rescheduled Challenge Cup fifth-round tie at Dews-

bury on Sunday.

The BBC will televise the sixth-round tie between Salford, who beat Wigan last Sunday, and St Helens, the favourities, on February 24.

Misconduct earns fine for Hunter

BY PHIL YATES

PAUL HUNTER, the first season snooker professiona who reached the semi-finals o the Regal Welsh Open two weeks ago, has been fined £2,500, of which £2,000 ha been suspended, by the general Billiards and Snooks Association (WPBSA).

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Hunter, 17, of Leeds, wa also ordered to pay £25 towards the cost of the hear ing, which looked into number of incidents at th qualifying school in Blackpox last summer. Snooker's your gest professional was found t be in breach of a ruling the requires WPBSA members t "conduct themselves in a pror er manner".

Hunter, the English junic champion, was also founguilty of bringing the gam into disrepute, but 80 per cer of his fine has been suspend ed. Unexpectedly, Mike Ru. sell. No I in the world billiarc rankings, escaped punishment after an alleged buttin incident during the worl billiards championships i Bombay last year.

Jones is fined again after attack on Gullit

VINNIE JONES received a heavy fine from the Football Association (FA) for the fifth time in three years yesterday. The Wimbledon midfield player's criticism, in a newspaper column, of Ruud Gullit in particular and foreign footballers in general cost him £2.000 and took his recent contributions to Lancaster Gate's coffers to £26,250.

The FA said it had considered banning Jones, but a spokesman, Steve Double, added: "He was hit in the

pocket rather than with a suspension because we accepted that Wimbledon did not have any control over the

article, or him." Jones claimed that Chelsea's former Holland international had tricked the referee into sending him off for the twelfth time in his career during Wimbledon's Boxing Day win at Stamford Bridge. Jones wrote to the FA offering his apologies and regrets" and turning down the offer of a personal hearing into the

ATRILETROS
TAMPERE, Finland: International Indoor
meeting: Men. 60nt. 1, P. Karlsson (Swe)
6 67-sec; 2, D. Brazhwaite (68) 6 67; 3, G.
Moen (Nor) 6 72; 100nt. 1, F. Fredencis
(Nam) 10 05 (world record); 2, Moen 10, 31;
3, P. Stevens (Be) 10, 33; 1, 1,000 methres: 1, P.
Romo (Nen); 2min 21,05sec; 2, M. Simos
(Fin); 226 58; 3, S. Valtonen; Fin); 226 58;
110m hardies: 1, A. Jamet (168); 13.45, 2, G.
Peders (Lavial 13, 79; 3, J. N. Sarga; 103, 79; 30m hardies: 1, P. Puldvinen; (Fin); 30; 20; 3; G. Sardies, 1, M. Halvato, 161); 20; 21m; 2, B. Noon (LS); 20; 16m; 1, M. Ottey, (Lam); 7, 13; 2, Z. Printassate (Jid); 7, 28; 500m; 1, N. Voronova (Ress.); 376; 2, S. Farmer-Parick; (US); 39,00; 3, S. Tverdoldeb, (Us); 33,33 Long jump; 1, L. Galdiera (Russ); 6,49m; 2, H. Kowtáe (Fin); 6,41m; 3, J. Halboaho (Fin); 6,30m.

BASKETBALL

CLASSIC COLA CUP: Semi-finat: Finat leg: Bernungham Butlets: 79 London Towers 77.

PRESTON: Church® Insurance world indoor championshapes Singles: First round: D Costd (red in 1 Tong (MQ 7-5) 2-7-0; W Rehtsrift: (Fing) by M Galland (Carl) 5-7, 7-1, 3-7, 7-4, 7-4 Pales: First round: G Senth and A Tromon Fing) by M Galland (Carl) and T Tong (MK) 7-3, 7-2, 7-4; H D.d. and D Goullay Jr (Scot) by G Philips and C Wilsons (Rales) 7-2, 7-7, 7-4. S Airey and D Taylot (Eng) by D Bryant and A Alcock (Eng) 7-4, 7-3, 4-7, 2-7, 7-6.

CRESTA RUN

SENIORS CUP: 1, C Emson (GB) 126 13sec; 2, W Berchard (Switz) 126.38; 3, V Schicht (Switz) 128.02.

CRICKET

PAWALPINOI (one day): Rawalpindi Dis-eter Cricket Association XI 175, South Africa

20 176-6.
REDI STREPE CUP (final day of four)Resease, Dominica: Windward Islands 234
and 278 (D. Joseph 67; R. Livels 51 not out)Guyarra 125 and 191 (A Percenti 64 R. Lewis
7-66) Windward Islands beat Guyana by

7-86) WESTERN FROM STORES DE LA GUYANTA CY 196 JULIS SHEFFIELD SHIELD (funt day of four) Perfor Curentation 154; Western Australia 61-4 Medicarrer Scatt Australia Nelsen 105 not out) v Vatona.

could have been a lot worse; in the Newcastle manager, after

disrepute charge. He knows his punishment

November 1993, he was given a record £20,000 fine and a suspended six-month ban by the FA for his commentary in video glorifying football violence and dirty tricks. He was fined £1,500 three years ago for making obscene gestures to Arsenal supporters while with Chelsea and given

for reaching 41 disciplinary He then paid out £1,750 last vear on a misconduct charge for swearing at Kevin Keegan,

a £1,000 fine and four-match

ban (his fourth of the season)

match, but escaped sanctions when he was reported to the FA for biting the nose of a journalist in a bar in Dublin. Giovanni Trapattoni, one of the most successful coaches in Italian football history, resigned from Cagliari, the struggling Serie A club, yes-terday after their weekend thrashing by Juventus, his old

employers. it was the first time that Trapattoni, winner of an unrivalled six league titles with Juventus and one with Internazionale, had quit a club son in charge.
"When I arrived at the club

this morning I did not expect to have to hand in my resignation," Trapattoni said. gliari last summer after a disappointing season with Bayern Munich, said he had decided to quit after meeting club officials and realising he no longer had their full

"I now realise I acted hastily in accepting this job," he said "above all when I promised ambitious targets."

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Sri Lanka XI v Goodwill XI COLOMBO: Goodwill XI beat Sn Lanks XI by four wickets SRI LANKA XI

ST Layassuriya b Yournis

1R S Kashwetherana c Tendulkar b Akeam 6
A P Gurushita c Jadeja b Tendulkar 34
A Ramatanga c Arwar b Kapoor 32
M S Alapastir c and b Kapoor 16
H P Tillekesana c Sohali b Kumble 15
U U Chandana c Azharuddan b Kumble 5
U U Chandana c Azharuddan b Kumble 7
H D P K Drammasena c Azharuddan b Kumble 9
M Muratitheron b Kumble 5
K R Pushpalkumara not out 9
M Muratitheron b Kumble 5
Edites (b 4, w 13, nb 4) 21
Total (Switch, 40 overs) 168
FALL OF WOCKETS 1-12, 2-16, 3-86, 4-112,

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-16, 3-86, 4-112, 5-114, 6-126, 7-146, 8-149, 9-157. BOMUNG Akrem 5-0-18-1, Youris 6-0-32-1; Tendukar 7-0-41-1, Kapoo: 8-0-34-2, Kumble 8-1-12-4, Scheil 6-0-29-0 GOODWELL XI

5-120, 6-164. BOWLING: Vaes 7:3-0-43-1, Pushpaku mare 4-0-24-0, Dhamassana 6-0-17-1, Murakharan 8-0-46-2, Chandana 8-0-35-2, Tillekaratne 1-0-3-0

CYCLING PALMA, Speint Majorca Challenge race; Second stage (162m, Poberos-Port de Pollencot 1, F Cabello (Sp) 3tr 22ms 20sec; 2, L Jelabad (Fr); 3, G Camacha (Sp) at safe first, 4, A Zulle (Switz); 5, I Cuesta (Sp) both at Sec. Pirat stage on Sunday called off because of rain.

FOOTBALL BANGKOK: International tournament Thailand 1 Denmark 3; Parland 1 Romania 1 CJAABA, Brazit: Commetost Chempions Super Cupt Pinel: São Paulo (Br) 3 Atietico Mineiro (Br) 0

Monday's lete results

FA CLIP: Fourth round: Swindon Town 1
Oldriem Athleto 0.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Tottenham
Horspur 0 West Ham Levied 1
TENNENTS SCOTTISH CLIP: Third
round: Dumlemithe 3 St Mirren 0. Postponed: Berwack v Dumdee United. Thirdround: replay: East File 1 Cale This 1 (setcaledonian iven 3-1 on pens). Revised
tourst-round: deser. Clyde v Rampers.
Stafing Albion v Aberdeen; Cettle v Raife
Rowers: Astrieonsaria v Forfer Atletic,
Servick Ranges or Dundee United v
Dentemitre Atlindor, Kirmannock v Heart of
Middonian; Stanthousemuir v Catedonian,
Thistie; St Johnstone v Greenock Monton or
Middonian;

ESMATE RECORDS

Montrose. UNISONO LEAGUE: President's Cup: First round replay: Postponed: Hyde v Leak. BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier de-vision: Cheimstord & Gravesend and Northfeet 1. Postponed: Worcestor v

Nertrifiert 1. Postponed: Worcestor v Salichary.
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Purtiest 0 St. Albers 1. Pirst division: Purtiest 0 St. Albers 1. Pirst division: Purtiest 0 St. Albers 1. Pirst division: Purtiest of Sogner Flogs v Basend division: Crtydon 0 Carrey Island 2. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Birstof Rovers 1. Queens Park Rangers 4. Postponed: Birgton v Svindon: Crtetea v Portsmoulir, Milwall v Totarham Hotspur. Portsmoulir, Birturgham City 3-Blackburn 2. Socond division: Preston 2. Port Vole 1. Covertry 5. Barnisy 0. Postponed: Bratford v Leicecter: Manchald v Huddersfeld. Third division: Wresham 8. Bochtable 2.

Huddersteen Insus Secretaria Rochdie 2.
Roch

CLUB MATCH: Esting 2 Wimbledon 0. WOMEN'S WELSH LEAGUE: Newtown ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Montreel San Jose C Organa 4 New York lelanders 1 Toronto 4 Patsburgh 1.

MOTOR RALLYING WYEDEAN STAGES (Gloucestershire): 1. D Junkins (Escont Cosmoth) 48 mm 48 sec: 2, T Bangry (Escont) 50:17, R, K Cuntan (Escont Cosmoth) 50:25. SVL. THISTLE SNOWMAN RALLY: REAL TENNIS

SEACOURT: British Land Silver Recket championship: Semi-Greak: A Philips bi H Latham 6-2, 6-5; O Jones bt M Howard 6-1, 8-2.

RIFLE SHOOTING

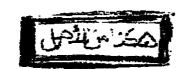
ALDERSLEY: British sir rille chemplonships: British Open: 1, C Hector (Berford),
689. Iptix: 2, D Rettray (Glasgore Rethespy,
678.1, Junior security (Glasgore Rethespy,
678.1, Junior security 1, J Milne (Bernshophan),
678.1, Junior security 1, J Milne (Bernshophan),
177.2, R Law (Sarrieg) 1770; 3, Milnet,
177.2, R Law (Sarrieg) 1770; 3, Milnet,
177.2, Horns Countries International: 1, England,
1758.2, Sociard, 177.3, Welse,
1524. Women's International: 1, England,
1749.2, Welse, 1113, 3, Sociard, 1789.
80/RDON: Women's inter-Sarvices,
chartopionship: 1, Royal Navy, 1,525pts
(FO C Sirroson, 198); 2, Army, 1,514 (Sgl. S,
McNet, 198); 3, Reserve match: 1, Army,
371; 2, RAF, 963.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Newy & Penning Watch: Royal Navy & Devor 0
WHU MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Pool C: Post-poned: Lanteren v Cerdiff Instance.
CLUB MATCht: Camoalled: Portypool v
Penerth.

SKIING SEPRA NEVADA. Spair: Alpine world championships: Merr Super-glant slaom: 1, A Skaordei (Nor) 1min 21.80sec; 2, P. Jarbyn (Swe) 1:22 09: 3, K A Azmoeti (Nor) 1:22 11: 4, J Lestarum (Fig) 1:22 37: 5, P. With (Austria) 1:22 48: 6, L. Kips (Nor) 1:22 57: 7, G Medic (Austria) 1:22 59: 8, A 52tori (R) 1:22 60: equal 9, H. Krauns (Austria) and L. Alphand (Fig 1:22 63. British placings: 36, G Bell 1:24 67: 61; D Walker 1:28 7.

TENNIS DAVIS CUP: World Group: First round: South Africa 3 Austria: 2 (South Africa names limit W Ferreira and G Multier bi T Muster and Ambonisch 6-3, 7-6, 6-7, 3-8, 6-3; Forreira lost to Muster 5-7, 7-6, 8-6, 6-7; M Ondrusica bi G Schaller 6-3, 6-4,

CRICKETLIN WORLD CUI COMMENTAR 0891-567-567 SCORE UPDATES AN LATEST NEWS FROM THE TOURNAMENT 0891-567-55



Sri Lankan spectators give vent to their disgust at Australia's World Cup boycott

Match in Colombo passes off peacefully

IN KEEPING with the buildup to the sixth World Cup, the cricket was secondary. For the record, a combined India-Pakistan "Goodwill XI" defeated a full-strength Sri Lankan side by four wickets yesterday at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo.

Anil Kumble took four wickets for 12 in a devastating eight-over spell for the comhined side, Muthiah Murainharan, bowling out of sight of the umpire, Darrell Hair, was not thought to have chucked a single off break: Azharuddin captained the visiting team, Intikhab Alam managed it, no one died - and the lively crowd, grateful for the cricket they received,

**

chanted untiringly. In their fullest throat, 10,000 the Australians the bird, a pattern that may repeat itself in later matches in India and Pakistan. Playing on the Urdu word for "long live", they kept up a raucous cry: "India zindabad. Pakistan zindabad, Sri Lanka zindabad. Australia - very, very bad."
There were other chants, too, thanking the visitors for their gesture of solidarity, but there was also this bitter, less amusin one: "Aussie PM is Keating. Australians are Australians are

The overwhelming flavour at the ground, however, was one of carnival. The aim of the exercise - to show the Australians that cricket can still be played in Colombo without risk of bloodstained flannels - was achieved. Yet for cricket lovers, particularly for passionate ones from the subcontinent, the manner of its achievement was as striking as the aim itself.

Had India not been parti-tioned in 1947, leading to the creation of the new state of Pakistan, its cricket team today would be quite formidable. Not quite as formidable as it might have been in the early 1980s - when Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev, Imran Khan and Javed Miandad were all at their peak - but certainly favourites for the World Cup which started earlier today. An attack of Wasim Akram.

Waqar Younis, Kumble, Mushtaq Ahmed and Manoj Prabhakar would be varied. and venomous. Sachin Tendulkar, Azharuddin and rul-Hag would be a and Bhagwat Chandrasekhar. stroke-filled trio of which all sides yould be envious.

As, ar Sohail, Sanjay Manjrekar, Navjot Sidhu, Pramakar and wicket-keeper Rashid Latif would be a bustling supporting cast of



Test players of India and Pakistan, united in common cause, hold a team meeting during a break in play in the Premadasa Stadium. Photograph: Dexter Cruez

Fraser keeps an anxious watch on Cork

ageing Miandad, an unknown quantity for perhaps the first time in his life. If the Australians, accorded more respect mong the many glued to their television sets by the bookmakers than by Sri Lankan spectators, are 5-2 A this morning as England opened their World Cup favourites to lift the cup in March, this Fantasy XI might campaign was Angus Fraser, in Stanmore. The Middlesex Yet the flight of fancy, propelled by yesterday's game and England seamer is training daily at his local gymnasium in case one of his former bowling colleagues should

"Since his debut last sum-

mer, he has proved himself to

be a world-class bowler, but

he must be given enough time to rest. We don't want him to

By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

British successes

Polgar dominant

to lead 52-22.

Black: Xie Jun

February 1996

2 N/3 3 d4

Od2 Nc3

Na4

White: Zsuzsa Polgar

Seventh game

Scotch Game

Bc5 Of6

at Colombo, ought nor to stop there. How good would an all-time "All India XI" be? Who would be in it? Would it be the break down. Praser is particularly con-cerned about the fitness of equal of all-time England. Australia and West Indies Dominic Cork, although not teams? How about this for an with any sense of Schadenall-time India Pakistan XI?: freude. England have to be Sunii Gavaskar, Hami Mo-hammed, Sachin Tendulkar, Javed Miandad, Vinco Man-kad, huran Khan (captain), Kapil Dev, Farukh Engineer, careful with Dominic," Fraser said yesterday, "We all know that we have struggled to bowl sides out in Test cricket in recent years, but the worst thing would be to over-use Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis

The side, pure fantasy, has also the purest class. It would hold its own — and more — against Mars. The venue? Why Colombo of course!

Scoreboard, page 44

ing at a Sports Writers' Association lunch, knows what he is talking about. In the two
years after making his England debut in 1989, he was so
overworked that he broke
down with a badly damaged
hip in Australia in 1991, an injury that took him two years

Chicken Madras

Just because you are paranoid, it does not mean they are not all out to get you. The Australian players, not con-tent with refusing to play in Sri Lanka, have now protested at the idea that they should practise in Madras, before nearby Vishakhapamam on February 23. The Australians would rather train in Bombay because they consider Madras too close to Sri Lanka. pick up an injury that puts The irony is that Australia's him out of the game for a net sessions were arranged

KEENE on CHESS

Simon Wilde's

for the local bowling academy, which is run by a certain D. K. Lillee.

Beer money

If England win the World Cup, they will receive a bonus of £90,000 from Tetley Bitter. three times the sum on offer from the organisers. This is a scheme on the part of the England team's principal sponsors, whose usual bonus for a Test series is a mere £50,000. A company spokes-man denied any bias in

favour of one-day cricket.

FOR just over three hours

yesterday, the Preston Guild

Hall became a province of

Cumbria when Stuart Airey

and David Taylor, who had no previous experience of the portable bowls rink, beat Tony Allcock and David Bryant 7-4,

7-3, 4-7, 2-7, 7-6 in the first

round of the pairs event at the

Churchill Insurance world in-

door championships.
Allcock and Bryant have

won the title six times, were

runners-up last year and this

is the first time they have

failed to reach at least the semi-finals. Airey and Taylor are the English national pairs

champions and five coach-

loads of highly-vocal support-

ers travelled from Cumbria to

watch them take on the world's two most famous

In a sense, the match was

won by a single bowl in the deciding set. Allcock and Bry-

ant, having come back from 0-4 to lead 6-4, held the

winning shot an inch behind

the jack. Taylor, although unsighted, wrested it out for

two shots, Airey drew a third

and Allcock missed with his

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engan ya kalifatu zikuliki. Baka 1979 da 1982 ya serikiki tananan da baka 1,577 taka 1,577 taka 1,577 taka 1,5

players.

final drive.

putting down the discrepancy to the World Cup's status as a truly world event". The fact is, to win the recent Test series in South Africa, England needed to play well over 25 days; to win the World Cup they must do so for only eight.

Hooper mystery

There were widespread fears that West Indies would be without one of their key players for the World Cup -and so it proved, even when Brian Lara agreed to join the team. But why is Carl Hooper not in it? Few insiders believe the official line that he is worried about his health. There are rumours of domesbelieves the problem goes back to long-standing difficulties with the West Indies board over schedules. "If the board had agreed to let him rest for two weeks before the tournament rather than train,

Allcock and Bryant slip up

By GORDON ALLAN

is electric," Taylor said. "It's at

its worst when everybody

suddenly goes silent. Coming

from a club environment,

where there's always some background noise, you are not

prepared for that and it can

Two sets down, Allcock and

Bryant had rallied in predict-

able style. There were brilliant bowls, mixed with a lot of

erratic ones, which all added

up to an absorbing contest.

Airey and Taylor go on to play

Roy Battersby and David Corkill, of Ireland, in the quarter-finals on Sunday.

There was almost another

surprise when the singles

began, Wynne Richards, the 1988 runner-up, being taken the full distance by Mark

Gilliland, a bearded Canadian

Richards won 5-7, 7-1, 3-7, 7-4,

7-4 and needed a count of four

shots in the fourth set and a

little luck in the decider to

make sure of going through.

get to you."

he would have gone. He is punch-drunk and has seen his commitments up to 2000 and there is not a gap in sight. The board have not been sympathetic to him for several

☐ The West Indies captain is also believed to be suffering from burn-out. The problem is, Richie Richardson does not know how to relax. Since dropping out of the game through exhaustion in 1994, he has played virtually nonstop and might have been thought ready for a break, after the World Cup and a home series against New Zeawhich is why he has signed to the Maidstone Eurosport League. "Richie likes England very much," his agent said, "particularly the London area. He wanted to spend some time over here

and have a holiday."

straight sets and plays either

Andy Thomson, the holder, or

Kelvin Kerkow, of Australia,

The championship pro-

gramme features exclusively

singles matches until Satur-

day, when Richard Corsie and

Alex Marshall, the reigning

pairs champions, meet Wayne

Letman and Phil Rowlands, of

Wales, to complete the open-

in the second round.

ing round.

IN BRIEF

Nemeth to leave Gordon in isolation

THE international basketball career of Trevor Gordon may be over after the England coach, Laszlo Nemeth, took a dim view of the 6ft 7in forward's request to be omitted from the squad that will prepare for its European championship visit to Muscow on February 28 with two matches against Hungary

The player claimed to be suffering from "wear and tear" and wanted to concentrate on his commitment to the Birmingham Bullets but Nemeth, allying this to Gordon's failure to turn up for a match against Denmark last month, said: "I think that his career with England has

PNGLAND SOLIAD 1: Humpun, at Crystal Parace February 20, and Mare February 21. St Buckman, N. Austin: A Gardiner Lordon Fowers R. Huggins, I McKimey J. Swanne (Sheffed Shana), K. Brown, R. Baker, I Whyte (Legolard): P. Scharbebury (capital). Thames Wiley Topics, M. Payne Barner, Bullers: P. Greinger Manchester Garton: McKimey, Select and Granger and Selection McKimey, Selection 20, P. Vourhotte, Rewatche Cometal and A. Sams, 'Derby, Storm').

Hardy at home

Boxing: Billy Hardy goes back home to Sunderland tonight to put his Europewan featherweight championship on the line against Michael Alldis, of Crawley. The Wearsider, 31, is enjoying a after his victory over Mehdi Lahdouni, of France, in October - an opponent who had beaten Dukie McKenzie and Steve Robinson.

Alldis's record of 13 wins in 15 contests suggest he is a good professional who may be able to cope as he he steps up from super-bantamweight.

Open to doubt

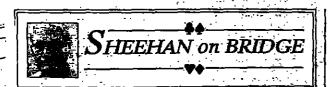
Golf: Jack Nicklaus has softened his stance on his participation in this year's Open Championship. Apparently surprised by the publicity engendered by his announcement over the weekend that he will not attend in July, he qualified his statement yesterday: "I won't come to Britain for the Open unless I achieve a top 20 finish in both the Masters (in May) and the US Open [in June]. If he does not come, he will break a streak of playing in 138 consecutive

Foschi banned

Swimming: United States Swimming (USS) announced yesterday that it had suspended Jessica Foschi, a 14-year-old from New York, for two years after she had tested positive for the steroid mesterolone last year. A six-month suspended sentence had been imposed by a USS panel, but the body appealed, successfully, for a stiffer sentence. The Foschi family, claim their daughter was sabotaged.

Qatar reward

Table tennis: Bradley Billington, the winner of the Welsh Open ren days ago, has been selected by England for the Qatar Open in 12 days time. He will joined by the England No I, Matthew Syed, and the Commonwealth men's Results, page 44 | doubles gold medal-winner, Andrew Eden.



BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT The KZ got caught with his trousers down on this TGR's hand. Love all Rubber bridge

> ¥8653 **+J87** #A865 **49876** ¥Q1072 : **+1054** 18 +QJ92 **≜KQ103** +AK962 **◆1074**

1 D 2 D (2) Contract: Three Diamonds by South

Lead: King of dubs) Diplicate players would good One Heart on the orth hand — with ten points, often good play, but here, it was pointless. East (Lionel Wright) found the key card— the jack of clubs. When Cohen-continued clubs, KZ was nerorth is slightly too strong for NT. (2) When a player re-pords I NT to One Club, he ill have club tolerance - he 15 not been able to bid a suit the one level, which implies at he has not got one, and nce he must have club

ngth. That inference does set up the defence's fifth trick
— if declarer ruffs low, West
overruffs; if he ruffs high, East
eventually makes the queen of
diamonds. Red face for South x apply anything like as tongly over One Diamond, id South should have passed orth's I NT - that is an easy Howard Cohen (West) led e king of clubs. That is the nt of thing that he does - not

thin a boring heart or ade. The declarer (KZ, the an who fortures me at every allable opportunity) ducked section on Saturday. un dummy. Ducking is

By Philip Howard

IIMSA Locust honey Non-plence

c. A waiter EBAUCHE a. A polite debauch b. Exhausted An expression of contempt -: Answers on page 46 I least celebrating love

vous that West had started with KQxxx and that East's jack was a singleton. So, he. played low on the second club, and Wright won and gave Cohen a club ruff: Cohen switched to a heart; now, the fourth round of clubs

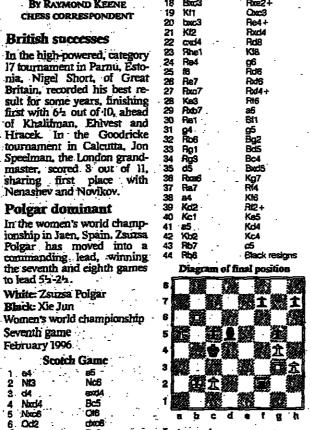
— if he takes the first club and draws trumps, he makes ten

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

b. An accomplice

White to play and mate in two moves. This position is a problem a. A female young communist composed by Lilian Baird, in 1891, when she was ten. Baird's exper-tise in composing chess problems astounded her contemporaries.

Solution on page 46



Internet coverage The match between Garry

Kasparov and IBM's Deep Blue computer can be followed on the World Wide Web: http: www.chess.ibm.park.org. Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

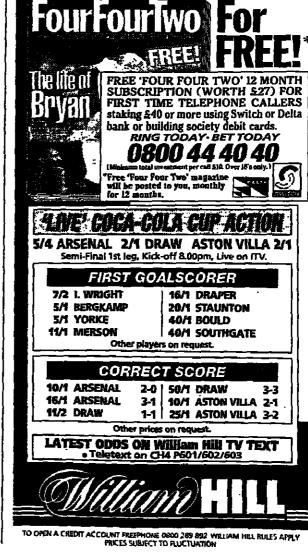
NO MOVE HAT THE PARTY OF THE PA By Raymond Keene

Can you spot the clever idea that allows White to force checkmate in two moves?

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Tong, of Hong Kong, in THE 經濟TIMES **SNOWLINE** WEATHERLINE 0891 333 462





SPORT / RADIO

Withdrawal increases doubts over American teenager's return to tennis

Training injury forces Capriati to delay comeback

JENNIFER CAPRIATI'S first comeback lasted just one match, her second ended before it had even begun at the Stade de Pierre Coubertin here last night. Two hours before she was due to play in her first tennis match on the women's tour for 15 months, the American pulled out of the tournament with a pulled hip muscle. renewing doubts about her commitment to a full-time return to the game from which she effectively withdrew after the US Open in 1993.

"I have hurt myself so I cannot play," Capriati said, twiddling her earrings but looking fresh and relaxed. "It is very unfortunate because I had come a long way to play and I was looking forward to getting back on the tour. I felt like I was ready, but there is nothing I can do.

Capriati said that she had suffered the side strain in practice yesterday morning. and had left her withdrawal as late as possible to give herself every chance of playing against Sabine Appelmans. but when she had tried to warm up before her match, the injury was too painful. Capriati's father, Stefano, said that he hoped his daughter would be fit to resume her career in the Nokia Grand Prix in Essen next week.

"I felt it go this morning when I was going for a ball and I tried to play on a little more, but it was just too painful," Capriati said. "I haven't been playing for a while, so the muscles might be a little tighter. I can't say when I will play again. I'll have to see how it feels."

Despite the injury, the Olympic champion talked positively about her desire to come back to the tour after 22

years away, and said that nothing in her preparations decision. "It has been great to be part of the atmosphere again," she said. "I've missed it a lot. I couldn't wait to get back to see everyone. It's been a long time since I've travelled anywhere and it's been great to come back to Paris again.

stances she could return.

the support of my family.

the impending fall.

By a quirk of fate, Martina

Hingis, the last to slip through

the net at 14, was also on court

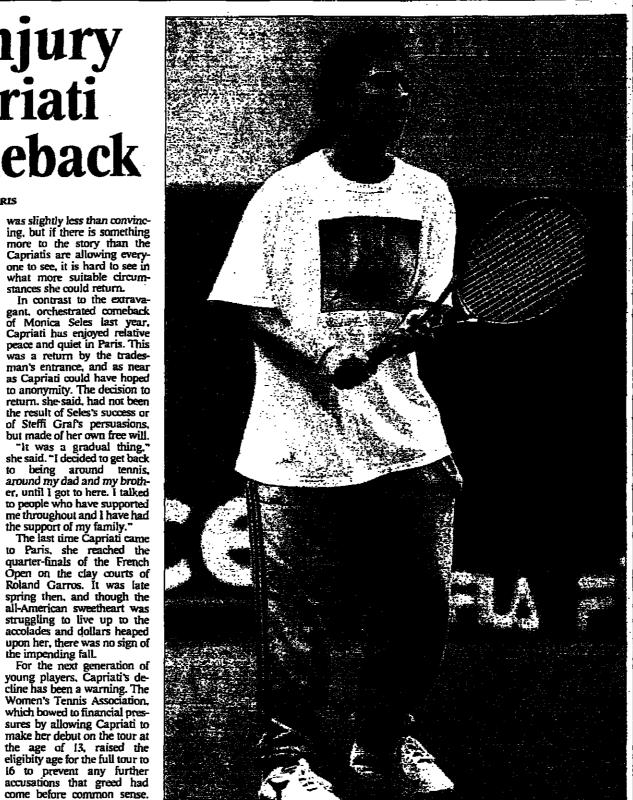
"I think all we can do is do what makes us happy. I've missed my time on the tour, ive missed playing ... of taking a break, it's been a long break, but I feel it's still inside. I'm still young and I never

Appelmans: walkover

said I wasn't going to play tennis again. Now I feel I'm ready to get back to it. I feel it's

For all Capriati's upbeat words, delivered in bouncy tones and with a ready smile reminiscent of the early days of innocence rather than the darker days of disillusion, few would care to predict with certainty whether Capriati really will follow her intentions, or whether this is another and, in its way, inevitable case of stage fright.

The account of the injury



Capriati prepares for a return to the women's tour before suffering her injury

Kiss of life for Paris

The Afternoon Shift, Radio 4, 3.00pm.

So enterprising has this magazine programme become that today's edition features a Valentine's Day scoop of breathtaking dimensions. Why didn't The Times get on to it first? But then, why didn't anybody? The triedit goes to Alice Purlaud, an American journalist in Paris. She alone, nobody else, discovered that French Government employees are actually being paid to pretend they are lovers. They kiss and cuddle on park benches, in cases, and practically everywhere else, to fool tourists into believing that Paris is still the capital of love. But hold on a minute. The surname of the colonel-in-charge of La Legion d'Amour is Beze. Say it out loud and you, too, will make a breathtaking discovery this afternoon.

See It My Way. Radio 4, 2.45pm.

Blindness can have its funny side, but it takes a careful word by a blind person to prove it. Peter White is just the man for the job. You will know that if you listen to him presenting In Touch, Radio 4's programme for the totally or partially blind. I have long admired his ability to combine humour with the serious job of giving information and advice. I often wondered how he got into the business of easing the load of the visually handicapped. See It. My Way is his six-part autobiography. He tells his story with that familiar smile in his voice. Part one explains how he acquired his reputation for being "a bit of a lad".

RADIO 1

FM-Stereo 4.00mm Chive Werren 6.30 Chris Evens 9.00 Senon Mayo 12.00 Lisa l'Anson, incl et 12.30-12.45pm LSS (AUSON, INC. 87 12.30-12.45pm Newsbest and at 1.15 line Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Dave Pearce, Inc. at 5.30-5.45 Newsbest, 6.15 line Net 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Radio Tip. Top. 10.00. Mark Radioffie Middlight ndy Lloyd, incl at 12.15em The Net

RADIO 2

PM Stereo. 6.00ara Mertin Keiner 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jermy Young 2.00pm Judi Spiers. 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Denn 7.00 Jan Loyd with Folk on 2 8.00 Peggy Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 8.00 Peggy Seeger talks to Jim Lloyd 8.30 The Richer Mo. Cellic music (1/6) 9.00 Kalsol Calypso. (2/6) 9.30 Nigel Ogden 10.30 The Jemesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00-6.00 Alex Lester

5.00mm Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, and 6.55, 7.65 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl 10.35 Euronews 11.30 Natural: History 12.00 Midday with Meir, Incl et 12.34pm Monsycheck; and et 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, Incl et 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdale mide 5.45 Entertainment News lews Extra incl et 7.20 sport 7.36 Trevor Brooking's Football Night. Coca-Cole Cup serri-linar. Arenel v Aston Ville 10.05 News Telk 11.00 Ninte Febru 12.05am Alter Hours 2.05 Up Ali Night

TALK RADIO

8.00acs Sandy Warr 7.00 Simon Bates 19.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raeburn 4.00 Scott Chisholm 7.00 Seen Bolger 9.00 Moz

6.00em Ori-Air. With Andrew McGregor. Vivaldi (Concerto in A misor for two violins):

Grofé (Grand Canyon Suite); Grainger (Lincolnshire Posy);

word (operation of global) exceptos); Handel (Overture: Arrival of the Queen of Shebe, Solomon); Saint-Seáns (Cello Concerto No 12 in A minor) Morning Collection, With Cartiona Young, Lisat (Three Debates Exception of Season

Petrarch Sonnets, Années de

Poulenc (Sinfonietta

12.00 Composer of the Weelc Irving Berlin, Introduced by Paul Guirery (3/5) 1.00pm Concert Hall, Live from

the Wigmore Helf, London, Beethoven String Tric of London, leaturing Pavlo Beznosiuk, vlotin, Jeremy

Williams, viole, and Richard Tunnicitie, cello, perform Gideon Klein (Trio); Beethoven (Trio in E flat)

10.Do M

All times in GNT 5.00mm Newsday 5.30 Europe Today 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shair 7.30 Discovery 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Timiry-Minute Drama 8.45 How to Listen 8.00 News in German 9.15 World of Music 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdask 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Off the Shair 11.00 Newsdask 11.30 Meridian 12.00 News 12.05pm

WORLD SERVICE

10.45 Off the Shalf 11.00 Newscess 11.30 Mendian 12.00 News 12.05pm Business Report 12.15 Britain Codey 12.30 Composer of the Montal 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Megamor 3.00 News in German 3.15 The Greenfield Collection 4.00 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 Business Report 5.45 Sport6.00 Newsdesk 8.30 News in German 7.00 News Summary 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multitrach: X-Press 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 The Story of Western Music 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today:10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Press 1.15 New Ideas 1.35 From Our Own Correspondent Mildnight Newsdesk 12.30mm. How to Listen 12.45 Britain 1.00 News 1.10 Press 1.15 New Ideas 1.35 The Planels 1.45 Country Style 2.00 Newsdey 2.30 Sport

4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe To CLASSIC FM 4.09mm Mark Griffiths 6.00 Nick Balley

9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newsrught 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Gardening Forum (r) 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1,00am

VIRGIN RADIO 6.00am. Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dena 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

5.15 in Tune. Pr

back in a tournament

Angry Novacek denies drug allegations Novacek said. "I gave the letter to my about the ITF: if there were no leaks, lawyers. I didn't understand the legal then there would be no story. I cannot evidence to the players' lawyers, but, if FROM ALIX RAMSAY

IN DUBAL

THERE are few places to hide on a tennis court, but for Karel Novacek the idea of playing in front of 5,000 people is the nearest thing to sanity and security he knows at the moment. Yesterday, at the Dubai Open, he attacked the International Tennis Federation (ITF) over its handling of allegations of drug-taking levelled at himself and Mats Wilander.

drugs test at the French Open last year. but then heard nothing more until October, when a letter arrived from the ITF stating there were irregularities over the results. "I was in shock."

GOLD CROWN APPILLATED RESORT

VILLACANA

ANDALUCIAN-STYLE VILLAGE

COURTYARDS, OVERLOOKING THE

BARRATT

CALL

AND ASK

Since then, the lawyers representing Novacek, of the Czech Republic, and Wilander, of Sweden, have been trying to gain access to the evidence against the players, while the ITF hearing concerning the case on January 22 was cancelled at the last moment. The next Novacek knew about the matter was when he read it in the News of the World last month while standing at Düsseldorf station.

"I was in tears, in shock," he said. "They said in the article that they knew since June about this, which makes me think that someone from the ITF leaked the information. I feel bad

be upset by the newspaper or the media - in fact I have been very nicely surprised by the support — but I feel let down by the ITF."

Wilander was also due to play in Dubai, but decided to stay in the United States " to rest and free his mind", as Novacek put it. However, for Novacek, who won the first Dubai Open in 1993, a wild card into the event was the perfect release. "Let me say that me and Mats are innocent," he said. "I have no reason to be sad or worried, we never did anything wrong. That's why I'm happy to be back after

three months of injuries." The High Court in London has given they fail to meet the deadline. Novacek is unsure what to do next, as further

legal action seems pointless to him. No amount of money in the world can repair the damage," he said, "Our ultimate goal is to prove that we are innocent and we have not had one opportunity to do that. We want to make sure that this cannot again."

pèlorinage); Fauré (Messe basse), Laio (Cello Concerto in D minor) Musical Encounters, With Edward Blakeman. Korngold (The Sea Hawk; excerpts; In the relatively peaceful world of match play, Jim Courier, the No 3 seed, Arthory Adverse, excerpts); Franck (Piano Quintet in F minor); Blainville (Symphony in G); 11.10 Artist of the was beaten 7-5, 7-6 in the first round by Alberto Berasategui. Courier was 5-2 down in the second set before recoverweek; Nicholes Daniel, oboe. Vaughan Williams (Oboe. Concerto in A minor); 11.30 ing to force the tie-break.

Results, page 44

The two players underwent a routine Novacek: delighted to be HOLIDAYS FOR A LIFETIME

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The Oak Room Restaurant at Tylney Hall, Rotherwick, Hook, Hampshire (page 8-9 of the guide). The telephone number should read: 01256 764881. Addition to our guide:

London: Gilbert's Restaurant, 2 Exhibition Road, SW7. Main course, lunch: M. T. W. Th. F. dinner: Sat. Tel: 0171-589 8947.



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Weather (Sprnj Last °C snow Conditions Runs to Piste Off/p resort AUSTRIA i 80 leir varied art snow (Snowing at last, pistes improving) i 50 icy varied art snow (New snow making little impression yet) Kazbühel 1 140 powder powder good snow wy snowfail blanketing pistes; good prospects) St Anton FRANCE 130 300 powder powder good snow -8 13/2 (Heavy snowfall; light powder but high avalanche risk) Aloe d'Huez 100 220 powder powder powder snow -4 13/2 (Still snowing hard: many lifts closed by avalanche risk) Les Arcs 145 190 powder powder good snow -6 13/2 (Excellent powder skiing but avalanche danger extreme) Tignes 100 180 powder powder good snow (Powder everywhere; snowfall limiting skling) -5 13/2 ITALY 110 320 powder powder good snow (Deep powder snow everywhere; outlook superb) Cervma SWITZERLAND 50 190 powder powder good snow (Very heavy snowlall with gusty winds; still snowing) C Montana 30 90 good powder good cloud (Trigh-deep powder on many runs, outlook excellent) 35 120 good powder good snow (Excellent snow and slung on open runs) 30 80 powder powder good snow (Snowing hard, excellent prospects when weather clears)

WORDSWATCH MAS

Source. Ski Club of Great Britain L - lower slopes. U - upper, art - artificial

Answers from page 45 AHIMSA

(b) The doctrine of non-violence or non-killing in Hindu philosophy. From the Sanskrit a-without * himsa injury. Aldrus Huxley, Eyeless in Gaza, 1936: "How foolish of Satan to tempt a, by definition, ahimsa-practising

(c) A pious love-least held by the early Christians in connexion with the Lord's Supper. From the Greek meaning brotherly rather than romantic love — Boo. sucks to that word on this of all days. Forget agape, up with eros and philia and all good chums.

(c) An under-waiter or chef's assistant in the fashionable and lucrative

(and over-rated) trade of catering to the snobbery of British Foodies.

Angela Thirkell. Brandons, 1939. "Le Capet, whose fourth mistress had just ahandoned him for an elderly commis voyageur." (c) A sketch, an outline drawing, a maquette, a rough-newn version. From the French ebauche a sketch. The Times, 1958: "A Deposition in our Sketch Club would not have been out of place among the ébauches of Tintoretto,"

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1. Ohl! and, if the king goes to the c-file, 2. Rc3 will be mate. If the black king chooses the e-file instead, then. 2. Re3 will do the trick. Beethoven (Tho in E flat)
2.00 Schoots: Together 2.20 Time and Tune 2.40 Drame
Workshop
3.00 Cupid's Choice. Susan
Sharpe plays Isteners'
Valentine requests
4.00 Choral Evensong from
Coventry Cathedral
5.00 The Music Machine. Sara
Walker talks to the 5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only)
6.00-10.00 Cricket World Cup
(LW only). England v New
Zealand from Altmedabad,
India, Commentary from
Jonathan Agnew, Peter Bader
and Bryan Waddle 7.00-7.40
Today (FM and LW) 10.00
Daily Service (LW only)
10.15-11.30 Cricket World Cup

10.15-11.30 Cricket World Cup (L.W only).

NB. The following are on FM only until 11.15am
6.00 News Briefing, Weather 6.10 Familing Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Mildweek, with Times columnist Libby Purves

Times columnist Libby Purves 10.00-10.30 News; A Good Read 10.30 Woman's Hote (FM and LW from 11.15). With Marsha 11.30 Gardeners' Question Time.

Oussions from the staff and students of Bishop Burton College of Agriculture, North Humberside (r)

12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Capital Galos, Drame series by Collin Johnson (2/4) 12.55 Westher 1.00 The World at One. With Nick

Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast News; Paupers and Pig Killers. The diary of William

Holland, a Somerset parson (2/3)
2.45 See It My Way. See Choice
3.00 News: The Attendoor Shift.
See Choice
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope.

海に

迹"

saxophonist Berbara Thompson about her hectic musical life (r) Jeremy Nicholes, Including Too Big); Rossini (D'alma celeste, o Dio! il viaggio a Rems); Scriabin (Poem of Bi-1: -**1**

Ecstasy)
7.30 Romeo and Juliet. Berioz's dramatic symphony, Wilson the Festival Hall. Sarah Welker, mezzo; John Mass, Ainsley, tenor, Michele Pertusi, baritone; Schutz Choir, London Philharmonic Choir, Brighton Festival Chorus: London Philharmonic Chorus; London Philharmonic under Floger Normgton
Towards Musical
Demporacy, Profile of the composer Ewan MacColl.
Presented by Sam Richards
Ginastera Revealed.
Geoffrey Norts presents a study of the Argentine composer Alberto Ginastera, beginning with his early output (1/3)

output (1/3) 10.45 Night Waves. The South Aincan writer, André Brink, discusses his first postapartheid novel with aparmed novel with
Chilstopher Cook, Plus a first
inight report on the play 1953,
the poet Craig Raine's version
of Racine's Andromache
11.30-12.30am Voices, Derek Lee
Regin, countertenor, Julius
Drake, plano, perform
American sonos by Ned

American songe by Ned Rorem and Samuel Barber, Suzanna Vega, Stephen Sondheim, Leonard Bern Torn Paxton and Big Bili 1.00-1.20 Night School:

Paul Gambaccini sees Robin. Williams in Jurnanii and a Screen version of Othelio 4.45 Short Story: The Trinket 4.45 Short Story: The Trinker Box by Ronald Frame 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Foli past 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Counterpoint (f) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Face the Facts, with John

7.45 Times Past, Times Future. Junes Past, I mee Pature.
Jeremy Pasmen chairs a
discussion on the judiciary.
With Lord Hallshem of St
Manylebone, Lord Donaldson
of Lymingion, Lord Archer of
Sandwell, Judge Stephen
Turnin and Lord Howe of
Abermany

Aberavon
6.30 Love Thang. Black
parformance poets perform their poetry live 9.00 Eureka. Scientist Sir David Westherall talks to Berbara Myers (3/5) (r) 9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59

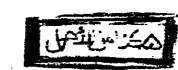
10.00 The World Tonight, With Jeremy Harris
10.45 Book at Bedtime: God
Stand Up for Bastards.
Journalist and author David

Journalist and author David Latch reads his autholography (8/8) 11.00 The Joys of Yiddish. Based on the book by Lee Rosten. Adapted by Jeremy Front 11.15 Date with Fate (1/4) 11.30 Missed Demeanours (FM) Only) (f) 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW

Only) _ 12.00 News 12.27em Weather 12.30 The Late Book: The Counter by Salman Rushdie (13) 12.45 Shipping Forecast 1.00-As World Service (10)

The same was the same of the s

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.5-99.8 RADIO 2. FM 982.90.2 RADIO 3. FM 902-92.4 RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8 LW 1981-MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693. 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 646; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO: FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053. 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Door; Giffight Marcely, Rosemary Smith and Sussen Thomson



Love, rejection and other burning issues

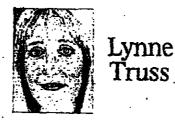
the historical Saint Valentine already, they are damned careful Sam has lied to Bianca about the how they select their partners.

In a secret assignation of their secret assignation at Camden Lock! Ricky is confused L know. At this godawful juncture of the year, when people swoon on cue in satin and frills, it seems wise to bear that interesting fact in mind. Last night's telly, luckily, was a good source for the flipside of Lerv, rejection and hurt feelings abounded, "Come back!". yelled the Royal Opera House, when the Russian conductor Rozhdesivensky walked out on a production, days before the opening: "Come back!" yelled Sam to Ricky in EastEnders (then Bianca to Ricky: then Ricky to Bianca; then Ricky to all his personal belongings, see below). "Come back!" said the Larry Sanders Show to a performance artist it had unwisely censored. The only people dis-playing any dignity, it seemed to me, were the disabled lonely hearts in the new series of From the Edge. But then, the disabled

to whom the ultimate happiness of Bianca Jackson in EastEnders (BBCI) is of no burning impor-tance. Patsy Palmer has a slappable face," an American East-Enders fan wrote to me; and few would disagree. Yet somehow the Pain of Bianca has become a regular heart-wringer. Having matched her to a politroon such as Ricky (a boy who sniffs motor oil) the writers can just settle back and watch the result. In good drama, the audience knows what every character wants, and Bianca scores heavily in this regard. Nobody is more selfish or demanding than this spoiled, mounty cow (pronounced "Kaas" by Bianca). With awesome regularity, she takes one's breath away.
And now the Pain of Bianca has.

reached a new nadir. For, rejected by doltish Ricky, the scheming and open-mouthed, which is not altogether surprising, for Bianca has selected strangely from her wardrobe today, and wears an orange shorty jumper, apparently knimed from cassette tape. Ricky is desperate. "I love Bianca," he huffs in agony; "I want to marry her!" "I wouldn't book the All yet mate." advises David, cheerfully. Sniffing, Bianca piles Ricky's stuff on the kerb and sprinkles petrol. She lights a match and tosses it. Ya va voom. Sayonara Meesta Reek,

ut if the youth of Albert Square think they have problems, they should think again. "Everyone is sensitive to rejection," said a woman wheel-chair user in From the Edge (BBC2). "But when boys ask you out and then run away and laugh, it makes you a bit cautious." They REVIEW -



run away and laugh? Yes, that would be hurtful. In this first programme of a series on disabled issues. Valentine romance was inevitably in the air toh God), but in particular the issue was the ethics of advertising for a soulmate without mentioning the D word. One man had spent £3,000 honestly describing himself as flonely disabled divorced grandad", which was certainly a waste

of money. Drop the "lonely", mate-Nobody reads past that one. Meanwhile a woman called Jackie, with learning disabilities,

described how she gave negative responses to a potential boyfriend. It was like a stand-up routine. I said, I'm a leminist. Well, he didn't like that. Then I said, I'm not very good at cooking, and he didn't like that. Then I said. I like getting my own way." She tipped her head to one side, and looked very earnest. I haven't seen him since then. Is

Getting the tone right for such a programme is difficult. Should there be a disabled ghetto or not? From the Edge was up-heat and youthful, and repeatedly drew ar-tention to the irrelevance of disability - by letting the viewers draw their own conclusions, for example, about the real reasons Jackie's suitor did not persevere. One of the presenters, in a wheel-

cropped hair, leather trousers, chunky silver rings, and a zip-up blouson of black leathers. He was very good. So why is he presenting programme about disability? Why isn't he presenting a programme about something else?

Te have a policy of not V reviewing repeats, but it's lucky I didn't count on watching the promised rerun of Yellow Line (BBCI). Christopher Terrill's brilliant Inside Story about motorists and clampers. At the last minute, it was pulled in favour of football. First shown a couple of years ago, Yellow Line was the first film to capture human indignation at its truly ugliest clamped motorists like Mount Eina fireworks, with coloured sparks and purple smoke belching out of their heads.

But those in search of human incandescence could of course console themselves with The X

into flames on a regular basis, and in which last night a scientist named Dr Banton foolishly meddled with a particle accelerator. Evidently he had not been listening when his mother told him never to do that, Va va voom. And now he had a black hole instead of a shadow. With its usual highhandedness, the script glossed over the precise physics of this, but suffice to say, whenever Dr Banton stood in a strong light, he would sweat quarts and warm: "I'm a dangerous man!" as people edged stupidly towards the silhouette of his head on the floor. "What?" they said, and then a foot strayed too far and flup! They melted feet first into a little pile of clinker on the carpet. Luckily, Dr Banton's gift is not given to everyone. Otherwise, in EastEnders, Ricky's clothes and

BBC₁ 6.00am Business Breakfast (76424)

know so much about rejection

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (18545) 9.00 Breakinst News Extra (Ceelar) 9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (3037578)

9.45 Kiliroy. Topical discussion (s) (9792202) 10.30 Good Morning (s) (80559) 12_0 News (Ceetax), regional news and weather (6824559) 12_05pm Turnabout

(S) (95/3027) 12.30 Going for a Song (s) (28191) · (s) (9375627) 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceelax) and weather (68022)

1.30 Regional News and weather (77408424) 1.40 Neighbours. Annaise bids her new tamily tarewell (Cestax) (s) (34286511) 2.00 Peoble Mill. Ross King is joined by the actress Emma Thompson (s) (9555714)_

2.45 Hawkeye (s) (3309795) 3.30 Moomhr (5872530) 3.50 Bitss (5) (5869066) 4.10 Rugrats (f) (s) (6780559) 4.35 Out of Tune (Cestax) (s) (618/676) 5.00 Newsround (Cestax) (2041379) 5.10 Blue Peter (Cestax) (s) (1592398)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (703288) 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceetax)(917). 6.30 Regional News Magazines (269)

CLEER

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3 F .

7.00 This is Your Life (Ceeisx) (s) (3801). 7.30 Here and Now. Sue Lawley and her team return with the stories and questions on the subjects that matter in our daily lives. This week, Anestasia Cooke reveals the sites off Britain's coastline which have been systematically used as dumping grounds by the military for munitions, chemical weapons and nuclear waster and Sue Efficient meets the founder member of a disabled dence troups who is about to become a Hollywood star

(Ceefac) (s) (153) 8.00 How Do They Do That? Earnow) Holmes and Jenny Holl reveal more secrets of television and firm. Plus stories of achievement from the fields of medicine, science, sport and entertainment (Ceefax) (s) (144743)

8.50 Points of View presented by Anne Robinson (Ceefax) (s) (520789)

Liberal Democrat Party (475630) 9. Nine O'Clock News (Ceelex), regional

news and weather (9066) into the Fire. The first of a three-part drama. (Ceelax) (s) (8607153)

Desmond 10.35 Sportsnight. introduces boxing action from tonight's European featherweight title match between Billy Hardy and Michael Alidis; a preview of this weekend's rugby union matches between Wales and Scotland and France and Ireland; highlights of some of the fourth-round FA Cup ties; and World Cup cricket (s) (42354424)

em FILM: Remo Unermed and Dangerous (1985) starting Fred Ward, Joel Gray and Kate Mulgrew. A New York policeman wakes up from a mysterious accident with a new identity. He is now in the engine of a secret unit set up to knestigate a dangerous industrialist. Directed by Guy Hamilton (Ceefax) (731888) 2.20 Weather (2403221)

VicisoPlus+ and the Viciso PlusCodes to Amber rest to sport IV popularities and are vicio tuccode number, which allow you to programme your to recorder Instanty with a VicioPlus+ in the vicinity with a VicioPlus+ in the vicinity with a vicio Ten in the vicio too Plus+ can be used with most vicion. Ten and the vicio too Plus+ can be used with most vicion. Ten and the vicion to the vicinity of the vicinity of the vicion to the vicinity of the vicinity - Hodor-last - Card on used worm trans whoses a per a review of the PusCode for the programme you wish to respond for making and Video/Flux on 0839 121204 (cashs cost 35pm) and chapp ase, Adoption as other time) or water to Video/Flux + Aconsect Lot, 5 krosy House, Permation Wharf, London SW11 3TN Video/Flux + 1**), Pluscode (**) and Video Programmer Lot, and the Programmer Aconsection of Cardinal Powerspraner Lot

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Maths — Symbols and Equations (2830601) 6.25
Measuring the Earth and the Moon (2828608) 6.50 The Necessity for History-

signing) (s) (8251530) Stingray (r) (28289) 8.00 Take Two (r) (Ceeted (s) (5681545) 8.25 Wisting (s) (5143462) 8.40 The Record (s)

(6549563)
9,05 Daylitms on Two: The Art (4946356) 9,25
English (4959820) 9,45 Words and Pictures (6975676) 10,00 Pleydays (5391808) 10,25 Numbertime (8341356) (5391803) 10.25 Numbertime (8341356)
10.45 Cuirize Minutes (8749153) 11.00
Scofland (3135424) 11.20 Music Makers (7304172) 11.40 English (253043)
12.00 TV6 (88482) 12.30pm Working Lunch (26733) 1.00 Geography (2937240) 1.20 Zig Zig (22957004)
1.40 Come Cutside (34284153)
2.00 Wishing (f) (8) (3684240)
2.10 Racing from Associative Coverage of the 2.30, 3.95 and 3.85 reception (735191) 3.55 News (Cooled) and Westher (1815443)
4.00 Today's the law (s) (882) 4.30 Ready, Sheedy Gook (s) (406) 5.00 The Oprah Wighter Show (Coeles) (s) (7322530)
5.40 A Wisek to Remember (5AV) (518207)
5.50 A Officient Country Practice. A series

5.50 A Different Country Practice. A series.

looking at the work of the Airedele NHS Trust (412085) 6.00 Star Trok: The Next Generation ax) (s) (7,46356) 6.45 The O Zone, Pop music (s) (731882)



Pope Plus XII in 1950 (7.00pm)

7.00 Reputations; Pope Plus XII - The Pope, the Jews and the Nazis. People who knew Pope Plus XI during the Second World War are asked why he remained all but stlent throughout the Holocaust (r) (Ceelax) (9795)

Ken Hom's Hot Wok. Chinese cookery made easy (Ceefax): (s) (3761) 8.30 University Challenge (Cesfex) (s)

9.00 Yes, Minister. (r) (Ceefax) (7608) 9.30 Government on Trial - the Scott Report. Gavin Hewitt traces the events which led to some of the Government's senior ministers being criticised for their

handling of the arms-to-traq issue.

Followed by Talking Cézanne (40443) 10.30 Newsnight (Cestex) (877917) 11.15 The Big idea. Andrew Marr is joined by Noem Chornsky, who talks about politics and the media (s) 956207) WALES: 11.15 Wales 2006 — the Culture (836820) 11.50-12.30 For Man Only (912849)

11.45 Weather (633530) 11.50 The Midnight Hour (s) (912849) 12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

Ken Hom's Hot Wok

BBCZ, 8.00pm

Replacing Delia Smith in the Wednesday night cookery slot, the genial Ken Hom sets out to prove that one part dishes are easy as well as wersaille. Sealood, beel curry, spicy samps and even puddings are all grist to his wok as he returns, after too long away from the screen, to promote the delights of Chinese cursine. Tips on producing the flufflest steamed rice are interspersed with enticing recipes soch as beef with peppers. There is a location feature each week, this time from Sai. Francisco where Hom cooks stir-fried fish for a couple of cab drivers. For the first of his regular celebrity spots, Hom pays a visit his regular celebrity spots, Hom pays a visit to June Whitfield and in her garden dazzles her with a mouthwatering halibut dish. Hom confesses, as modestly as he can, that he loves his own cooling. His enthusiasm and easygoing style should ensure that he will not be the only one.

BBC1, 9,30pm

Trust Tony Marchant to produce punchy drama. This is the writer of Take Me Home, charting a middle aged man's affair with a young woman, and Goodbye Cruel World, in which Sue Johnston memorably suffered from an incurable disease. Johnston also stars in Marchant's latest work, as the wife of a decent man to whom terrible things happen. Frank Candy (a rare television appearance by the Irish actor. Donal McCann) runs a factory making high-class leather goods. Although business is bad, he refuses to lay off staff. But when a big American order is cancelled, Candy, facing ruin, is forced into a desperate ploy. Marchant paints with a broad brush and his plotting is sometimes contrived, but if you accept the improbabilities and coincidences,

E.R.: Hell and High Water Channel 4, 10,000m

Just as the game seems to be up for the cavalier and philandering Dr Doug Ross (George Clooney), he has a chance to redeem himself that provides the Chicago hospital series with an episode frenetic even by its usual busy standards. For a change, main drama takes place not in the accident and emergency department but in a storm drain, from which, in the black of night and in pouring rain, Doug sets out to rescue a small boy. There is plenty going on in the hospital as well, as another child is brought in unconscious from a hit-and-run incident But Doug is the star, and his heroics are given full value by the show's sharp curtir and dizzving camerawork. Media intrusion on private distress provides a small but telling subtheme. In the context of a show feeding on voyeurism, it is also an ironic one.

The Merchant of Venice Channel 4, 1.00am

A production first shown in L5-minute segments as part of schools broadcasting is now available as a continuous whole, though only to insomniacs, shift workers and households with a video recorder. This is a pity, for a Merchant so accessible in style deserves a more accessible slot. Faced with the challenges of a limited budget, the the challenges of a infilted budget, the director Alan Horrox has not tried to go for speciacle. But if the sets are economical they are not sparse and exterior shots of Venice are used to suggest the location. The text has been cut and shaped in order to give a clear narrative flow and the performances eschew the theatrical. Bob Peck's Shylock is far from the carcinature lewish villain and there are the caricature Jewish villain and there are hucid readings from Haydn Gwynne (Portia), Benjamin Whitrow (Antonio) and

HTV

6.00em GNTV (2357400) 9.25 Wis, Lose or Draw (6) (3012269) 9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (5301085)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (1552004) 10.35 This Morning (15403511) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6813443) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (3164576) 12.55 Shortland Street (s) (3149269) 1.25 Coronation Street (r) Telegrati

2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s)

2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (57707733) 2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (350135£) 3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (2831375) 3.25 Regional News (Teleteri) (2830646)

3.30 Potamus Park (s) (1213820) 3.40 Wizadora (r) (s) (3221530) 3.50 The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat (s) (3227714) 4.00 Terror Towers (Teletext) (s) (608) 4.30 Delts Wave (Teletext) (s) (820) 5.00 Garfield and Friends 147487071

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (8255714) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) 6.00 Home and Away(r) (Teletext) (792733) 6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (293849) 7.00 Wish You Were Here ...? June

Whitfield and her husband, Tim, enjoy a holiday on Lake Garda while John Carter visits éastem Crele (Teletext) (s) (5269)



Liz Dawn, Elizabeth Bradley (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation: Street. Maud (Elizabeth Bradley) and Vera (Liz Dawn) try to make contact with My. Will she show herself? (Teletext) (849)

8.00 The Match Live: Coca-Cola Cup Semi al, 1st Leg. Arsenal v Aston Villa. Live coverage from Highbury (6085) 10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (93917)

10.30 Regional News (131379)

10.40 FILM: The Fourth Protocol (1986) Adapted by Frederick Forsyth from his bestselling Cold War novel. Pierce Brosnan plays a Russian agent sent to an East Anglian aircraft factory to sabotage our nuclear war capability Michael Caine is the spycalcher sent to stop him. With Joanna Cassidy, Ned Bealty, Ray MacAnally, Ian Richardson also on board, the film does not live up to its cast but is still a convincingly lense thriller Directed by John MacKenzie (84927714) 12.55em God's Gift (1754689)

1.55 Dear Nick. Men talk about jealousy and whether tathers should feel obliged to attend the birth of their babies (40560E0) 2.55 Bushell on the Box (r) (s) (3483270)

5.00 The Village Show (89950) 5.30 Morning News (74931)

3.25 Murder, She Wrote (r) (4652950) 4.20 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (1548196)

HTV WALES As HTV WEST except:

6.25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (293849)

WESTCOLINITRY

As HTV West except: 12.55 Coronation Street (3149269) 1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (84531443)

1.55 Home and Away (71618004) 2.25 Vanessa (57798085) 2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (6873022) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8255714) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (38578)

CENTEAL As HTV West except

12.55 Home and Away (3149269) 1.25 Chain Letters (84531443) 1,55 A Country Practice (34290714) 2.20 Vanessa (57799714) 2.50-3.20 Our House (3501356) 5,10-5,40 Shortland Street (8255714) 6.25 Central News and Weather (777424)

2.55am The Good Sex Guide (7761283) 3.50 Profile (95801009) 4.00 Jobfinder (8573399) 5.20 Asian Eye (1058486)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except: 12.55pm Chain Letters (3149269) 1.25 Home and Away (84531443) 1.55 A Country Practice (34290714) 2.20 Vanessa (57799714)

2.50-3.20 The Lady Killers (3501356)

5.10 Home and Away (8255714) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (135) 6.30-7.00 Jungle on Your Doorstep (337)

S4C Starts: 6.35 Think Tank (5925397)

7.00 The Blo Breakfast (23733) 9.00 Fifteen to One (70066) 9.45 Book Box (8670004) 10.00 Stage Two Science (8333337) 10.15 The French Programme (4407408) 10.35 Irish Writers (7280443) 10.55 Film and

Video Showcase (9758801) 11.07 Schools at Work (3418795) 11.15 The Mix (7918375) 11,30 Rat-e-tat-tat (2545375) 11,45 First Edition (2533530) 12.00 House to House (83530) 12.30pm Wowser (11801)

1.00 Slot Meithrin (26820) 1.30 Film: The Perfect Woman (50420795) 3.10 The Montel Williams Show (3482714)

4.00 Backdate (578) 4.30 Ride On (462) 5.00 5 Pump: Rownd a Rownd (5225998)

5.15 5 Pump: Pfeil (1396086) 5.30 Countdown (714) 6.00 Newyddion (158375)

6.15 Heno (901356) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (557153) 7.25 Dim Ond Celf (398288)

8,00 Dim Cliw (2559) 8.30 Newyddion (1066) 9.00 Y Parc (3375)

10.00 Brookside (91559) 10.30 ER (39153) 11 30 CVMII (8299R)

12.00am NBA XXL (74028) 2.00 Close (48863)

CHAMMEL 4 6.35am Think Tenk (r) (Teletext) (s)

stereo might today still be pre-

pavement would be him.

served, but the black scorch on the

(5925337) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (23733) 9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Tele;ext) (s) (70066) 9.30 Schools. Out for Adventure (9125199)
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Work (2418076) 11.5 The Mar (2018076)

Work (3418795) 11.15 The Mix (7918575) 11.30 Rai-A-Tai-Tai (2545375) 11.45 First Edition (s) (27533530)

12.00 House to House (82530) 12.30pm Sesame Street (82676) 1.30 Madeline (r) (s) (54068725)

1.55 Those British Faces: A Tribute to Gracie Fields (r) (Teletext) (73418086) 2.25 FILM: The Secret of Convict Lake (1952) starring Glenn Ford and Ethel Barrymore. A group of escaped convicts end up in a small lown inhabited only by women. Directed by Michael Gordon (Teletext) (268004)

4.00 Backdate (Telefext) (s) (578) 4.30 Countdown (Telefext) (s) (462) 5.00 Love in the Afternoon (Telefext) (s)

6.00 The Crystal Maze (1) (Teletext) (s) 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (412207)

7.55 The Slot. (395424) 8.00 Brookside (Teletext) (s) (2559)

8.30 Travelog. Andy Kershaw travels to Albania (Teletext) (s) (1066) 9.00 Dispatches. A report published today

reveals how living in close proximity to overhead power cables may seriously damage your health (Teletext) (589269) 9.45 Short and Curiles: The Spy Who Caught a Cold. Showcase series of short lilms. The adventures of a woman naturist camp with her ten-year-old daughter. Postponed from January 24. (Teletext) (325646)



George Clooney in action (10.00pm)

10.00 ER: Hell and High Water (Telelext) (s) (808627) 10.55 Friends. Chandler gets trapped in a bank's lobby, with only a glamorous (r) (Teletext) (s) (664530) 11.30 Moviewatch. Film magazine (s) (82998)

12.00 NBA XXL Highlights of Dallas Mavencks v the Houston Bockels (74028) 2.00-3.20 FILM: American Madness (1932)

b/w) starring Walter Houston. A bank manager's trust in his fellow man is restored after the bank's vice-president, who offers his assistance to a gang of robbers, gets his comeupparice. Directed by Frank Capra(5731134) 4.00 Schools: The Merchant of Venice (Teletext) (s)

(2899739) Ends at 5.25am

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable char lels see the Vision supplement, published Saturday KY ONE

7.00ms Boled Egg and Soldiers (48849)
8.30 Press Your Luck (\$216882) 8.50 Long
Connection (6852849) 9.20 Court TV
(113085) 9.50 Oprah Whatey (4824191)
70.40 Jepantyl (1594443) 11.10 Sally-Jessy Repitael (6279559) 12.00 Becchy (50714) 1.00pm The Waltons (69462) 2.00
Cardiol (47849) 8.00 Court TV (1608) 3.30
Oprah Whatey (6345733) 4.15 Undun (2017/68) 3.00 Star Trek (5288) 8.00 The Smpsons (2207) 8.50 Jeonardy (3559) (2017/088) 5.00 Star Trek (5289) 5.00 Fine Sampsons (2217) 6.30 Jeopenyli (3559) 7.00 Tolethari Update (8817) 7.30 M*A*S*H (2465) 8.00 Earth (26707) 9.00 Podet Ferripas (86153) 10.00 Star Trek (88240) 11.00 Late Show with David Lateitman (2870931) 12.45em The Uniqual tables (520009) 1.30 Star (76316) 2.00 Ht Mg. SKY NEWS

News on the hour. 5.00cm Survise (3772949) 9.30 Desura-tons (19269) 10.30 ABC Nightline (27988) 1.30pm CBS News (28443) 2.30 Paris-tons (74327) 2.30 Parisment (1337) 6.30 Tonict: (82365 720 Sportsaire (7075) 8-39: Neutrinici: (833795) 11:20 CSS Neutrinici: (833795) 11:20 CSS Neutrinici: (833795) 2:30 Neutrinici: 1205-7091 1230 Pafferrent (72115) 4:30 CSS (80370) 2:30 Pafferrent (72115) 4:30 CSS News (87356) 6:30 ABC Neutr (16931)

E.Dhein Miss Hu Kathe (1955) (27820) 8.00
Whitefoo (Sridge (1960) (27801) 10.00
Vital Signis (1960) (51940608) 17.40
Black Gold (1965) (54727849) 1.20pm
Shadyushada (1963) (3800902) 3.30
The Age of Imponence (1983) (162559)
G.DO (Inel Stat) — The Harts Gathers
Shad (1965) (1967) (1967) (1967) (1967) 5.00 Finel Shot — The Hank Gethers Shary (1992) [55443] 7.30 El Henn Week in Rev. 7 (7511) 8.00 Sheepless in Seeting (1993) [55001) 10.00 Bediam (1990) [877153] 11.40 Bediam in Two Mary Janusian (1993) [91205] 1,20am Jana Desente (1993) [91205] 1,20am Jana Desente (1993) [91205] 1,20am Jana Desente (1993) [91205] 2,45 Main Jah & Swing (1974) (12573) 4,35 6.00 Black Gold (1963) (4716880)

The second secon

SKY MOVIES GOLD (50pg) The Sty's the Limit (1943) (5462) 8.00 Pillow Talk (1958) (7298) 8.00 Coccor (1965) (77443) 10.00 Failing in Love (1984) (523735) 11.50 Valley of the Dolls (1967) (83553172) 2.00-3.30em The THE MOVIE CHANNEL

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THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to deep 5.00em Under the Limbrels Tree Valentier's Day (62792669) 6.36 Fraggle Rock (41665443) 7.30 Winne are Pook (6002638) 7.30 Duckales (83874135) 8.00 Crip in Dale Rescue Reugers (15061669) 8.30 Wonderland (15061666) 9.00 Densey (62798077) 10.00 Under the University 11.00 Morpost Sables (82826892) 11.30 Morpost Sables (82826892) 11.30 Pook Comer (8289671) 12.00 Custo (40894999) 1.00 Wonderland (159474379) 1.30 FlUM Heids — Part One (80639795) 3.30 Wilnite the Poolt Auto Dermane (852/16207) 5.09 (2015-17)
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(14559) 10,30 Athletics (52153) 11,30-12,30em Equestrenism (97627) SKY SPORTS

SRY SPORTS

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11.30 Stiff Salling (71820) 12.00 Inside the

PGs Tost (80776) 12.30-2.30em Copposet

Look — International Motorsport (17467)

3.45 World Cup Cricket — South Airica v

UAE Luse (41128564)

SKY SPORTS GOLD 10.00pm World Cup Hall of Fame (9576556) 10.30 World Cup Classics Holland v. Brazil 1974 (1566578) 12.00-1.00mm Clympic Contury (9280931) THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL 4.00mm (Jving World 5.00 kenneth Cope-land 5.30 Kids TV 5.45 General Christian

Day 6.45-7.00 Music SKY SOAP 7.00pm Guiding Light (5188648) 7.55 As the World Turns (3336659) 9.50 Peyton Pisca (2795733) 9.20 Days of Our Lives 10.10-11.00 Another World (5355452) SKY TRAVEL

Entertainment 6.15 Benny HarryThis is You

11.00am Globatroffer (2061996) 11.30 Video Trips (2062827) 12.00 Kaleidoscope (675627) 12.30pm Frugel Gournet (6772707) 1.00 Arotand the World (5978131) :7,30 Trates (712249) 2.00 Freedom (6522269) 2.30 Discover Your World (1261375) 3.00 Geldwey (6534004) 1.30-4.00 Kids Down Under (1285820) THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm D-day Assiult on Fortress Surppa (2085678) \$.00 Godfathers (6625396) 8.00-7.00 Biography: Marilyn Monroe (5122088)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00 FiLM: ASen (Lover (9744269) 1.00em Bentiester Gelactica (3038299) 2,00 FiLM. Frankenstern Meets the Wolf Main (3352405) 3.30-4.00 Hitchcock (5027115) TLC 9.00-11.30mp True Romance (1775191)

12.00 Jule Chid (1756827) 12.30pm Tre, Frugal Gournet (4154917) 1.00 Van Can Cook (738820) 1.30 Local Heros (152889) 2.00. Dogs with Dunkar (152899) 2.00 Secret Gentlers (1561739) 3.00 Two's Country (1538733) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (1573578) UK GOLD

7.05em Angels (4237356) 7.30 Neighbours (5483676) 8.00 Sons and Deughters (1761998) 8.30 EastEnders (1761269) 9.00 The Bit (1784849) 9.30 The Sulvens (4.152559) 10.00 All Creatures Great and Small Passanan and Smell (358040) 11.00 Juliet Bravo (9188284) 12.00 Sons, and Daughters (1784085) 12.30pm Neighbours (4156375) .00 EastEnders (5588220) 1.30 The Bul (415564) 2.00 The Sulbvars (1528356) 2.30 Get Some Int (1563191) 3.00 Angels (1630191) 3.30 Eldorado (1542606) 4.60 Cesually (45711511) 8.05 Generation



SATELLITE

The Morgan car is the subject of Classic Wheels (Discovery, 10pm)

Cuts (4581820) 6.25 EastEnders (7323795) 7.00 Edocado (1523172) 7.30 I Woke Up One Morrang (1551356) 8.00 FLM Carry on Lowing (6181443) 10.00 The Bit (4829627) 10.35 Top of the Page (3747443) 11,30 Special Branch (5595288) 12.25am FILM: The Club (2430202) 2.15-3.00 Shopping at Night (2211396)

> 8.00mm Swen's Crossing (48820) 6.30 Pugwali (34424) 7.00 Ready or Not (86511) 7.30 California Dreams (8548) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (4543) 8.30 Tiny TCC (2443442) 12.35pm Tny TCC (45344)91) 2.30 Happly Ever Alter (4462) 3.00 Some the Hedgerog (7820) 3.30 Occar's Orches-tra (6207) 4.00 California Dinamo (5714) NICKELODEON

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and Pete (47375) 1.00 Capital Orders (97356 1.30 The Littlet Pet Shop (46646) 2.00 Worthore (9269) 2.30 Rude Dog (220) 3.00 Court Duckula (1004) 3.30 Might, Mar. (3357) 4.00 Rugeatt (1172) 4.30 Tales of the Chyptheepet (7755) 5500 Seate Soare (3349) 5.30 Harty Boys (5608) 6.00 Ren and Shmpy (9349) 6.30-7.00 Are You Khaud at the Dah? (2801) DISCOVERY

The way for

4.00pm Bush Tucket Man (1552085) 4.30 Parameters (1558269: 5.00 Cassic Wheels (1529085) 6.00 Terra X (1562462) 6.30 Beyond 2000, 96745111 6.30 Beyond 2000 (9074511) 7.30 Activa C Clarke's World of Strange Pawers (1553968) 7.30 Activa C Charles (1553968) 7.30 Activa C Clarke's World of Strange Powers (1959998) 8.00 Arthur C Clarke's Myden Ous Umers: (1539462) 8.20 Time Travelers (152526) 9.00 Wizners (6198733) 10.00 Class Wheels (6191820) 11.00 Draing Passons (5303424) 11.30-12.00 Top Marques (8121998) **BRAVO**

12.00 FUM. The Best Man (8132004)
2.00pm The Sant (9120209) 3.00 The Buctaness (152259) 3.30 The Adventures of Wittern Tel (1550204) 3.00 FUM. Bay the Victor Dracus (7550805) 5.30 Death Valley Days (155027) 6.00 The Adventures of Robert Floor (155628) 6.30 UFO (9978337) 7.30 The Green Homel (155624) 8.00 The Sant (6772795) 8.00 The Control (155624) 8.00 The Sant (6772795) 8.00 The Control Sant (6772795) 8.00 Th The Goosp State (5222733) 9.30 Weekly World News (4161257) 10.00-12.00 FEM PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Borson (3085) 7.30 Family Ties (8085) 8.00 Entertainment Tonghs (2739) 8.30 Wings (1240) 8.00 Scep (25578) 9.30 Laverne and Shafey (27511) 10.00 Entertainment Tonght (16733) 10.30 Fontainment (16133) 11.00 Wings (2743) 12.00 The Conc. (86318) 12.20mm The Odd Coaple (11912) 1.00 Wings (77757) 1.30 Scap (16134) 2.00 Laverne and Statey (15139) 2.30 Entertainment Tonghi (63134) 3.00 Frontine (80221) 3.30-4.00 The Conc. (54466)

UK LIVING 6.00am Ageny Hour (7688207) 7.00 Kiroy (7766431 8.00 Esma (9799199) 8.30 Embroidery (464630) 9.00 Food and Drink (4571545) 9.35 Kate and Alie (2518511) 11.00 The Young and the Rissless (8095795) 11.56 Brookside (7572085) 12.30pm This Thing Called Love (7344171) 1.25 Bride of the Day (6513462) 2.00 Agony Hour (2101563) 3.00 Live at Three (7245986) 4.00 Intelluction UK (9812153) 4.30 Crossints (6887733) 5.05 Lingo (7573563) 5.30 Lucky Laddens, (9832917) 8.00 Benetiched (9822930) 6.30 Brookside (690375) 7.05 This Thing Called Love (5944397) 8.05 The Young and the Resiliess (1465511) 9.00 Caprile and Lacry (9673288) 10.00 Charle's Angels (9676375) 11.00 Sylvane Waters (7258462) 11.20-12.00 Say Life (7157068)

FAMILY CHANNEL 5.00em Black Beouty (6337) 5.30 Tintin (952627) 5.55 Banner (101269) 6.30 Catchphrase (6443) 7.00 Roll with it (9901)

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Alman Skes (57450) 3.00 GP Vistors 111115] 3.30 Big Brother Jake (90202) 4.00 Alman Shee (88467) 4.30-5.00 Black Beauty (12944)

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day special (2527609) 9.00 Ten of the Best Love Song: (8755375) 10.00 Beny White's Love Line (8758462) 11.00 Tommy Vance at the Nighthy (3151375) 1.006m Curs Stiger: (3031757) 2.00 Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE Country music from Sam to 7pm on satellite metuding 5.00pm. Saturday. Nite. Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

ZEE TV 7.00mm Jee Presents (43756801) 8.30 Kahkashan (15866999) 9.00 Kunuksheita (15860578) 9.30 Urdu Serasi Mandu (22759153) 10.30 Namada India (158794621 11.00 Tara (66378289) 12.00 Buniyaad (15860714) 12.30pm Manasi (91172511) 1.00 Urdu FiLM: Naseeb Agna Apria (23885714) 4.00 Zee Presents (82375527) **5.00** Zee Zone (34950004) 5.30 (5805356) 7.00 App 16 Adelat (5490240) 7.30 Barrey: April Bald (65158530) 8.00 Now: (34955288) 8.30 Hint: Firm, Love Season: (942 - a Love Story (9605356) 11.30-12.00 Brangra Revisited (64128982)

CARTOON NETWORK/THT then THT films as below. 7.00pm Now, Voyager (1942) (18271530) 9.15 Mrs Sofial (1984) (57134795) 11.16 The Shop Around the Corner (1940) (49925207) 1.00am Vacation from Mar-riage (1945) (36050944) 2.45-5.00 Now,

CNN/QVC CNN provides 24-hour news, and QVC is

Men m a Boar BBC WORLD

PERFORMANCE

Mews on the hour News on the hour.
8.05sm Horizon 9.25 Film '96 12,15pm
Penorama 1.15 World Business Report
1.30 Newshour Asia and Pacific 2.25
Andrew Neil 3.05 Tamewatch 4.25 Tomorrow's World 5.15 World Business Report
5.25 Jeremy Clarison's Motoworld 8.05
Waternise 9.25 Food and Dock 12 30pm tergate 9.25 Food and Drok 12.30am

MOTOR RACING 42

HILL CALLS ON SPIN DOCTOR TO **CLEAR ROAD AHEAD**

TENNIS CAPRIATI FORCE TO DELAY HE RETURN TO ACTIC

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14 1996

Team doctor's orders could give edge during nail-biting finishes in World Cup

England put accent on preparation

CRICKET CORRESPONENT IN AHMEDARAD

TO WIN this World Cup will require far more from a team than simple cricketing excellence, as the England players, who launched the tournament early this morning, are rapidly finding out. You have to travel, you have to stay healthy, you have to stay sane and, on the sub-continent. none of them comes easy. management commandment

forbidding nail-biting. For all the fascinations of India, there are, for Western sportsmen, as many frustra-Zealand, England's opponents



Franklin obituary Rioch warned

familiarity after touring India as recently as November. "It feels as if we've only been away for a long training session," Lee Germon, their captain, said yesterday. The England players, several of them virgin soldiers in this part of the world, are having alien way of life.

Their preparation for survival and success has been meticulous: Phil Bell, the team doctor, has seen to that. One of his earliest missions was to identify the nail-biters of the party, the most persistent of whom were Graham Thorpe and Richard Illingworth, and wean them off the habit. They have already grown better fingernails and, more perti-

nently, avoided illness. said. "When the grounds here are watered, it is done with mucky water that may have come straight from sewage drains. Picking up the ball after it has rolled on the grass. then biting your nails afterwards, is a recipe for stomach

Fletcher, the New Zealand batsman, practises yesterday in front of an unusually large audience before the opening match of the cricket World Cup against England

For similar reasons, Bell insists that the players wash their hands thoroughly whenever they come off the field. He instructions entirely at odds with the advice he would give in other countries. Fish and salads, the health foods of Europe, must be avoided at all costs, as must ice in drinks.

For the first time, an England team on tour is on constant medication. Each day.

every player must swallow a capsule of an antibiotic that protects them against diarrhoea and other stomach dismore sense than cure when a bug can knock three or four players out of your team on the morning of a match," Bell

Some players take their own prudent precautions, none take more than Jack Russell. though in his case the measures are not all specific to India and Pakistan. Russell took his own baked beans and Jaffa cakes to South Africa,

"I could live on beans and rice," he said. "Last time I was here, I had steak and chips 35

selectors felt able to leave well

alone when they named, yes-

nights in succession, but I hardly eat any meat now. I certainly won't eat curry. For breakfast and lunch, all I have hydrate powder." Russell is not complaining.

He knows, and others are finding out, that to do so here is self-defeating. Michael Atherton did spend the practice session yesterday bellowing abuse but that was entirely directed at himself for dropped catches and false strokes. He has a proper, captain's attitude to the tour and is determined that his team should not fall into the mentality of siege and persecution fatally adopted by many previous England sides.

Even the absurdity of the journey, from Calcutta on Monday, which began for England and three other 9pm, brought a philosophical response. While the vagaries of the indian Airlines timetable indicate that the Cup organisers should have chartered an aircraft. Atherton is wise enough to acknowledge the local acceptance of travel as an essential trial. "The

in the tournament," he said. The manager, Raymond Illingworth, was not so san-guine. "If a football manager was asked to do the three days

travel days are an irritant, but

the teams who face up to them

best are halfway to doing well

before the first game in a World Cup, he would laugh the organisers out of court," he both sides, but that doesn't make it right." Illingworth, of course, is the man who vowed. in his 1969 autobiography: "India is one country I will never tour." Much has changed since then, but for

one perhaps not enough. When Illingworth said that England had a good draw in the competition, he was not thinking of his social life. All

but one of their group games are in alcohol-free Pakistanand the other, the match today, is in the one

remaining "dry" state in In-

dia. So, if Robin Smith sought a celebratory drink after a

firmed he could stay with the

One man who may have been driven to strong drink. however, was Jagmohan Dalmiya, the harassed convener of Pilcom, the organising committee. India is affronted by the failings of the opening ceremony on Sunday and Dalmiya is being held responsible. In Calcutta's State Assembly yesterday, a demand was heard for Dalmiya's arrest, charged with wasting money. First the Colombo forfeits, now the fury of Calcutta: it may be enough to

make Dalmiya bite his nails.

England shuffle pack for Scotland match

By DAVID HANDS UGBY CORRESPONDENT

MARTIN BAYFIELD, generally regarded as one of the world's leading lineout forwards over the past two years, was dropped last night by England from the rugby union team that will play Scotland in Murrayfield on March 2. His place will go to the uncapped Bristolian, Garath Archer.

Bayfield's demotion, after 31 caps, is part of the selectors' response to the generally disappointing displays by the forwards during this season's npionship. With him goes his Northampton colleague Tim Rodber — for the second time this season — in a back row reshuffle that s Leicester's Dean Richards re stored once more.

The England player most at risk after the defeat by France and the six-point victory over-Wales had seemed to be Mark Regan but the Bristol hooker holds his place and now has Archer, his club colleague, to throw in to. The selectors have identified the lineout prob 6ft 10in Bayfield while the estoration of Richards must surely bring greater tactical nous to the pack.
Archer, 21, has

egular in the A side over the last year. He first made his name with Newcastle Gosforth but moved south last summer and joined the Army as well as Bristol. At 6ft a formidable scrumn partner for Martin Johnson but it is his lineout technique which will come under closest scrutiny against the Scots.

This will be the first match

of the season which Richards. England's most-capped No 8. starts. He came on as a but the pack has missed his authority and it is significant that Ben Clarke, pack leader this season, moves to the blind-side flank to accommo-

date him. BNGLAND: M J Catt (Bath); SellSleightholme (Bath), W D C Cerring
(Harlequins, cépt), J C Guscott (Bath), R
Underwood (Leitzester); P J Grayson(Northampton), M J S Dawsson (Nothampton); G C Roventre (Leicester), M P
Regan (Bristo), J Leonard (Harlequins),
B B Cteries (Bath), M O Johnson
(Leicester), G Archer (Bristo), I L B N
Dailaglio (Wasps), D Richards
(Leicester),
Replacements: J E B Callact (Bath), P R

(Beth), P.R. Gallard (Beth), P.R. de Glarville (Beth), K.P.P. Bracken (Bristol), V.E. Ubogu (Beth), R.G.R. Dewe (Beth), T.A.K. Rodber (Northampton).

Wales stick by Twickenham XV Jones, the 6ft 10in Cardiff lock, whose appearance in a tele-By DAVID HANDS vision commercial has caused FOR the first time in three years, Wales's rugby union

terday, an unchanged team to play Scotland at Cardiff on Saturday in the third round of the five nations' championship. Whether their confidence will be justified against the only unbeaten team in the championship is a most point. Wales, as losers at Twickenham earlier this month, felt able to take more from the game than did England. Given a supportive crowd at the National Stadium, their belief is that they can upset a team

> "We played well in parts of the game against England," Kevin Bowring, the coach, said. "We need to extend the length of those parts against Scotland, to build on the progress we have been making." To that end, Wales can do without the storm in a teacup surrounding Derwyn

that, all of a sudden, have

become strong favourites.

the national jersey. More appropriately. Jones and his forward colleagues have taken part in additional scrummaging sessions since. the match at Twickenham. when Bowring was conscious that the scrum was not all it should be. Indeed, they have worked so hard against the under-2i squad - who play their Scottish opposite numbers on Friday in Swansea that Andrew Lewis, the loosehead prop, sustained a cut

success, they are keen to play a running style, but that will take time," Bowring said. "Even so, if we carry that attitude on to the international stage and both teams buy into it, Saturday's could be; an entertaining game. We are looking for an expansive, exciting game, but we are also looking to develop a winning

The players are keen for

W J L Thomes (Liarelli): I C Evans: (Liarelli), K P Devices (Liarelli), W T Proctor (Liarelli), W T Proctor (Liarelli), W T Proctor (Liarelli), A L P Lieute (Cardili), J M Humphreys (Cardili), a D Device (Roselly, E W Levis (Cardilli), B O Lieutelly (Nesth), D Jones (Cardilli), R J Cardilli, Liarelli), H T Taylor (Cardill), R G Jones (Liarelli), H T Taylor (Cardill), Replacements: G Thomas (Cardilli), Replacements: G Thomas A P Edocare (Cardilli), S Williams (Portlyands), A P Lidocare (Cardilli), G R Jenkins (Portlyands), L Mustoe (Cardilli), G R Jenkins (Swanses).

Seven of the Wales team will be playing their first championship match at Cardiff, among them Arwel Thomas. the Bristol stand-off half, who continues to keep out the experienced Neil Jenkins. Bowring believes Jenkins, of Pontypridd, who has played only one game in the past nine weeks because of injury, to be ring-rusty. it remains to be seen wheth-

er the optimism created by losing only 21-15 to England is justified. It may be argued that, had England been less sterile in their approach, they would have won by far more. On the other hand, Wales showed a pleasing sense of initiative and it is reasonable to give talented young individuals such as Justin Thomas, of Llanelli - who did not have the best of days at Twickenham - another chance to display the skills that have lit up Stradey Park this season.

Wales had other reasons to be pleased yesterday. Scottish Life, the insurance company, has agreed a deal worth £400,000 over the next four years to sponsor their home internationals with Scotland and England, while Sky Sports, the satellite television company, is reported to he offering a lucrative deal to cover the country's first-division clubs. 🕗

Moreover, though the national selectors appear to have turned their backs on Robert Jones, Wales's most-capped scrum half, Jones is not about to depart the country. Swansea and three local companies have put together a package that has persuaded Jones to turn down the advances of

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11.

Grimsby refuse Laws' offer to quit

BY DAYTO MADDOCK

GRIMSBY Town's preparation for their FA Cup fourth-round replay with West Ham United tonight continued on its eccentric course yesterday, with Brian Laws, the club's manager, offering to resign after his confrontation with his Italian player. Ivano Bonetti. William Carr, the Grimsby chairman, refused the

Bonetti underwent a two-hour operation at St Hugh's Hospital in Grimsby, to repair a fractured jaw and cheekbone and Laws felt such extreme action on the eve of the club's most important fixture in a decade was warranted. "If the chairman thought that the best thing to do was for me to resign, then I would without hesitation," he said. "I am employed by this club on my footballing ability and if it is felt I have failed in that duty, then I would step down."

Carr declined and asked instead for support as Grimsby prepare to entertain West Ham. "A lot of things are said in the heat of the moment and they are not taken seriously," he said of the offer to quit. "It is just another episode in the long line of incidents a club chairman has to deal with. I want to put this behind us and concentrate on the very important

Bonetti will have trouble concentrating on little else than the pain from a fracture allegedly inflicted by his manager. It came in a dressing-room confrontation after Grimsby's 3-2 defeat at Luton Town last Saturday. The former Juventus player is now contemplating his fature

with the club whose supporters raised through an appeal - the £50,000 needed to keep him at Blundell Park until the

Gianni Paladini, the player's adviser, said last night that there were a lot of hard decisions to be made. "I have spoken to him after the operation on his broken jaw, which was very serious," he said. "Nothing like this has ever happened to him in his many years in football and he is understandably dismayed. At the moment, it doesn't look very good and he will not be able to play for some time.

"I am not sure if he can stay with the club - a lot depends on the reaction of Brian Laws; but he will be released from hospital in the morning and will have talks with the relevant people."

TWO CROSSWORD No 704

1 Wheedle (6)

3 Induce (5)

6 Very desirous (4)

weapon (I-4)

14 Dishonour, stain (8)

12 Most powerful nuclear

16 Violent coup attempt (6)

17 Strong hostile feeling (6)

19 (Eg film) shown full-length

7 Solid CO2 (3.3)

11 Spaceman (9)

2 Destroyer of Pompeii (8)

5 Help in tiny, simple steps

ACROSS

Secret; a thicket (6) Place surrounded by water

8 Fair: only (4) 9 Larger part (of divided

10 (Sea-)monster: The — (Hobbes) (9) 13 Animal story with moral (5) 15 (Treasure) dug up (5)

16 Tricky question (5) Official wrong-righter (9) Scattered, occasional (8) A concert: a walk (4)

Large (meal); enthusiastic

24 Leg-coverings (6)

20 US Midwest state (4) SOLUTION TO NO 703 ACROSS: 1 Soft touch 6 Gib 8 Chimera 9 Golan 18 Loan 11 Nugatory 13 Radius 14 Vassal 17 Bequeath 18 Burn

20 Realm 21 Lookout 22 Tie 23 Non-metric DOWN: I Secular 2 Fair and square 3 Twee 4 Uranus 5 Hogmanay 6 Gallows humour 7 Bandy 12 Superman 15 Lunatic 16 Stalin 17 Beret 19 Bole

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD NO 699 In association with BRITISH MIDLAND In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS: 5 Bright lights 8 Stress 9 Yeoman 40 Cure

12 Eclipse 14 Retsina 15 Byte 17 Fallen 18 Cavity 20 Death warrant

DOWN: 1 Obstacle race 2 Mire 3 Play-act 4 Ignominy 6 Hiss

7 Transvestite 11 Resolute 13 Unknown 16 Scar 19 Vial

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